



# **Data Acquisition System Architecture & Capabilities At NASA GRC Plum Brook Station's Space Environment Test Facilities**

Richard K. Evans  
Gerald M. Hill

**27<sup>th</sup> Space Simulation Conference**  
November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Presented by  
**Richard K. Evans**  
(NASA Glenn Research Center)

## **ABSTRACT**

Very large space environment test facilities present unique engineering challenges in the design of facility data systems. Data systems of this scale must be versatile enough to meet the wide range of data acquisition and measurement requirements from a diverse set of customers and test programs, but also must minimize design changes to maintain reliability and serviceability. This paper presents an overview of the common architecture and capabilities of the facility data acquisition systems available at two of the world's largest space environment test facilities located at the NASA Glenn Research Center's Plum Brook Station in Sandusky, Ohio; namely, the Space Propulsion Research Facility (commonly known as the B-2 facility) and the Space Power Facility (SPF). The common architecture of the data systems is presented along with details on system scalability and efficient measurement systems analysis and verification. The architecture highlights a modular design, which utilizes fully-remotely managed components, enabling the data systems to be highly configurable and support multiple test locations with a wide-range of measurement types and very large system channel counts.



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# Presentation Outline

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- **Overview**

- Plum Brook location and facilities
- Summary of recent facility upgrades at Plum Brook

- **Plum Brook Facility DAS Design Drivers**

- Goals
- Challenges
- Measurement Topology
- Architecture
- Specifications and Capabilities of shared assets

- **Overview of Plum Brook Data Systems**

- B-2 Facility DAS
- SPF Vibroacoustic Facilities DAS
- SPF Thermal-Vacuum Chamber DAS

# Presentation Outline

## ■ Overview

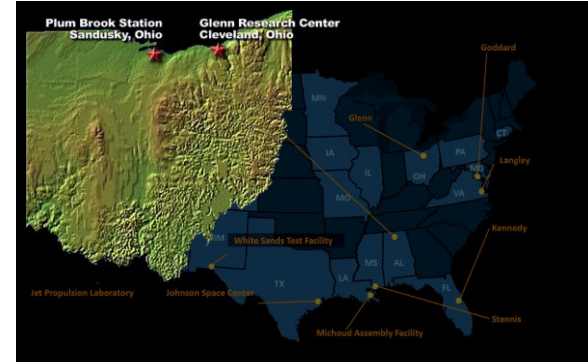
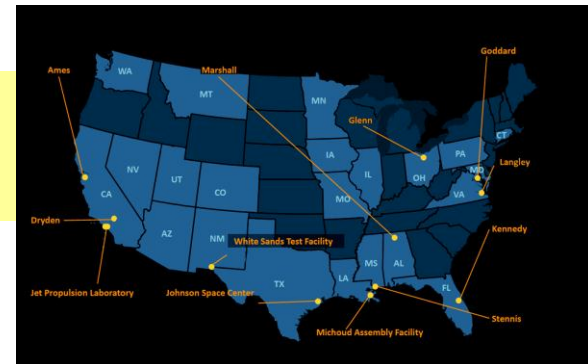
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# Overview - NASA Plum Brook Station Test Sites



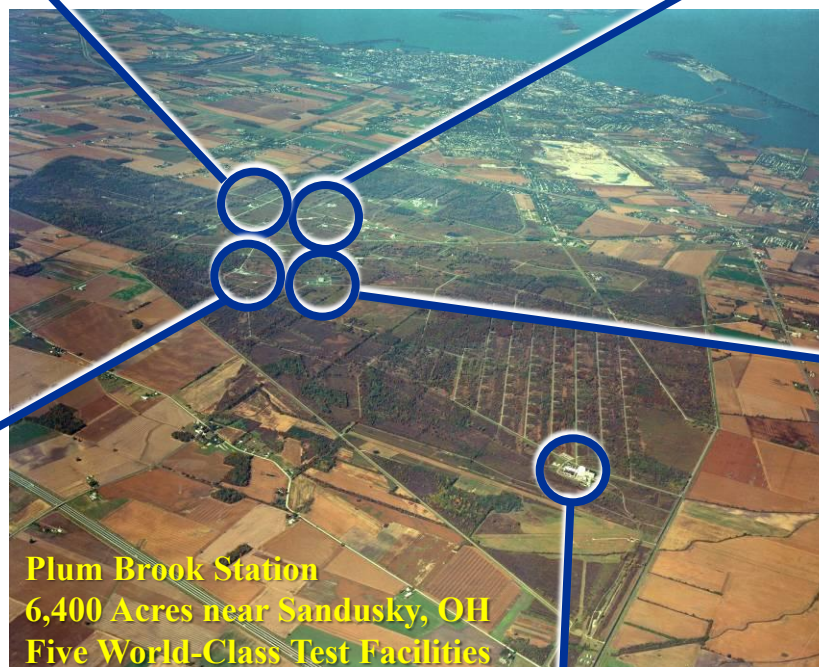
**Large-Scale LH<sub>2</sub> Testing**



**High-Energy, High Risk  
Cryogenics Systems Testing**



**Blow-Down, Non-Vitiated,  
Free-Jet Wind Tunnel**



**High Altitude Engine Testing**



**Integrated Space Simulation Facility**

- \* Thermal Vacuum Chamber
- \* Reverberant Acoustic Chamber
- \* 3 Axis Sine-Vibration Facility

# Overview – Recent Modernization Projects

## ■ B-2 Restorations (2006..2010)

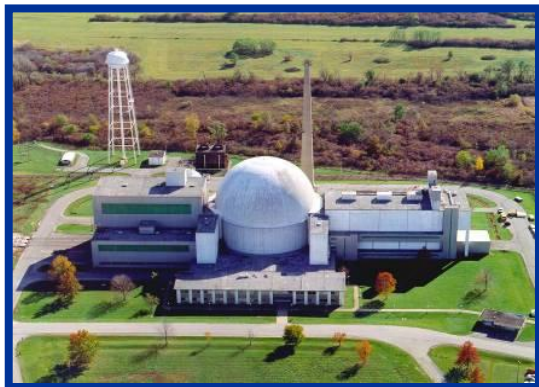


Beginning in 2006, B-2 underwent a systematic, phased refurbishment program to revitalize all major facility subsystems and ancillary infrastructure equipment.

NASA's Space Operations Mission Directorate (SOMD) and Exploration Systems Mission Directorate (ESMD) have funded this activity, under the guidance of the Rocket Propulsion Test Management Board (RPTMB), a NASA Level II office responsible for maintaining the agency's chemical propulsion test capability.

To date this refurbishment includes the chamber and all vacuum systems, propellant and pressurant systems, control and data acquisition systems, and numerous facility support systems.

## ■ SPF Vibroacoustic upgrade (2007..2011)



In late 2007, NASA began a project to create single location where large-scale space environment testing could be performed. Leveraging the existing thermal-vacuum test chamber at the Space Power Facility (SPF), NASA began the work to add acoustic, vibration, and modal test capabilities at a comparable scale.

The modifications to the facilities were completed in 2011 and included the installation of a dedicated facility data acquisition system to support the new test capabilities as well as a replacement data system for the thermal-vacuum chamber.



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# Design Approach for the New Data System

---

## What would the IDEAL DAS solution look like?

- **Commercial Off-The-Shelf (COTS)**
  - Look for mature product lines from industry leading manufacturers
  - Maximize the use of open standards for both hardware and software
- **Modular**
  - Scalability
  - Upgradability
  - Easier to Troubleshoot, Check-out, Verify & Repair
- **Electronically Configurable**
  - Avoid Manual Knobs and Dials
  - Able to automate and back-up “SAVE/RESTORE” functions
  - Configurations included as part of the test record
  - Facilitates “Whole System” automation
- **Highly Integrated Operation**
  - Traceability is “built-in” to a fully integrated modular system
  - Borrowing the merits of the OSI 7-Layer model, Higher-Level Functions in a layered model allows some “transparency” in the system. (such as Ethernet and Fibre Channel) (i.e. – ability for upstream components to control and configure downstream devices)





# Design Approach for the New Data System

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### ~ Our Strategy ~

These characteristics will result in a system that is:

- ✓ Easy to **Operate**
- ✓ Easy to **Maintain**
- ✓ Easy to **Upgrade**
- ✓ Easy to **Verify**

Our goal is to assure :

- ✓ **Highest Quality**
- ✓ **Highest Reliability**



# Design Approach for the New Data System

---

**What are some of the challenges in designing a permanent “facility” data system?**

- Wide variety of Data Rates and Measurement Bandwidths
- Wide variety of Measurement Types
- Distance Effects and Limitations
- Calibrating the system (and troubleshooting)
- Synchronization and Timing of Data from Multiple Sources
- Future System Growth (Scaling-up when needed)
- SAVE and RESTORE Functions
- Versatility (Every customer wants something different)
- Measurement Fidelity



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# Modular Distributed Measurement Topology

**Sensors &  
Transducers**

128 – 2,000+ channels

Accelerometers, Mics, Strain, Temperature, etc...

$\mu\text{W/nW}$   
(Small Signal Regime)

(Digital Regime)

**Data  
Storage**





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(Small Signal Regime)

**Signal  
Conditioners**

$\pm 10\text{V}$

(Strong Signal Regime)

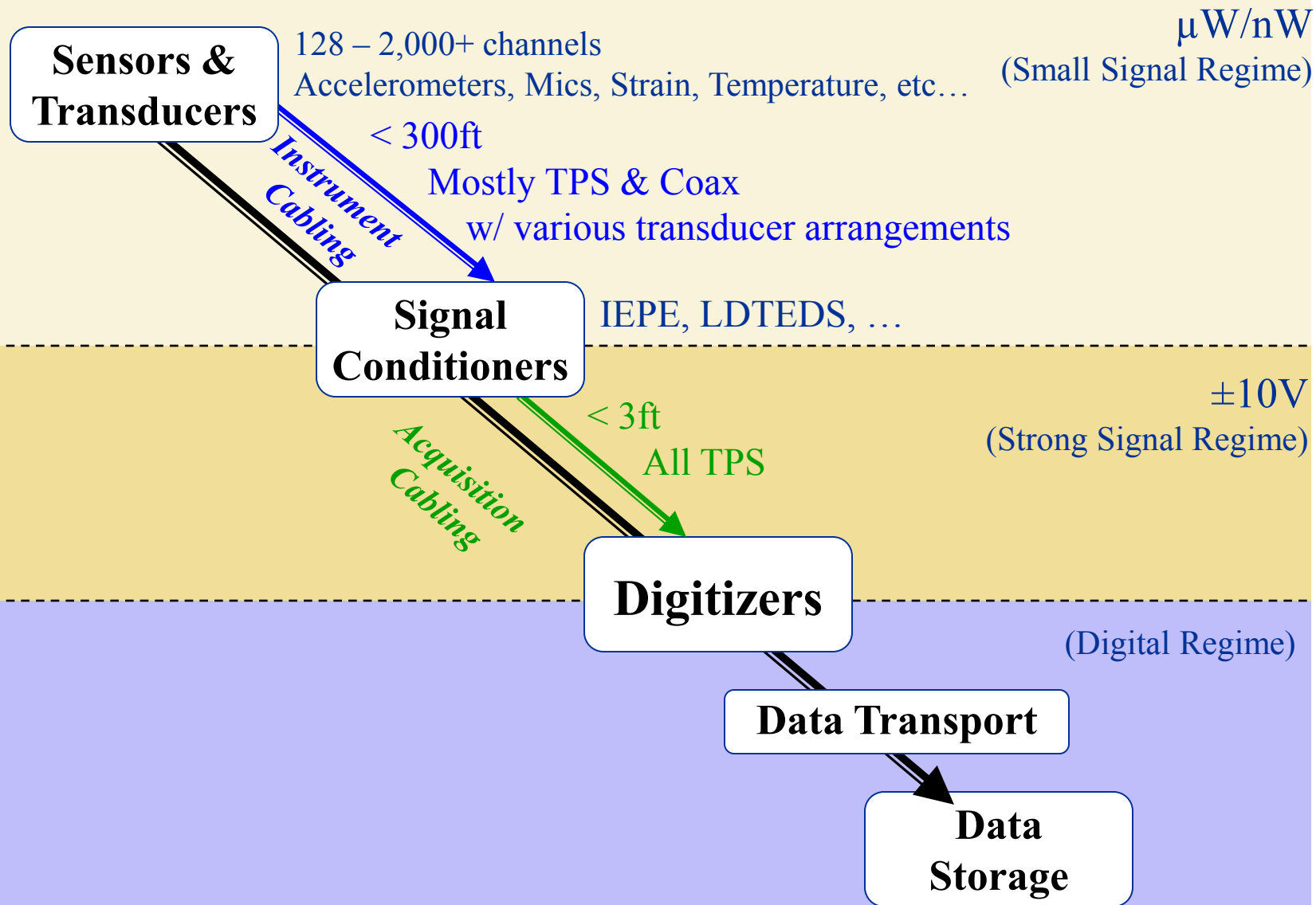
**Digitizers**

(Digital Regime)

**Data  
Storage**

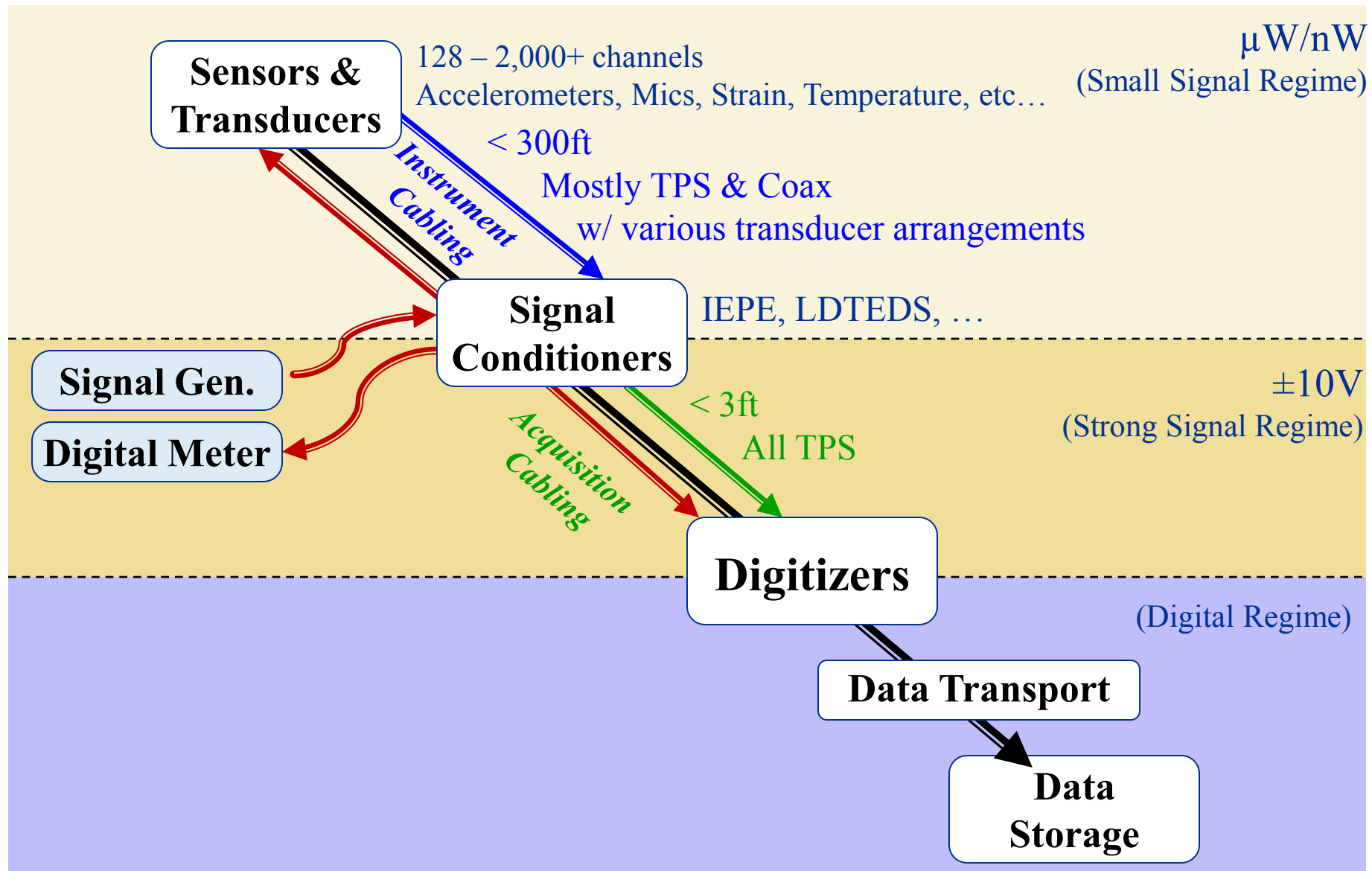


# Modular Distributed Measurement Topology

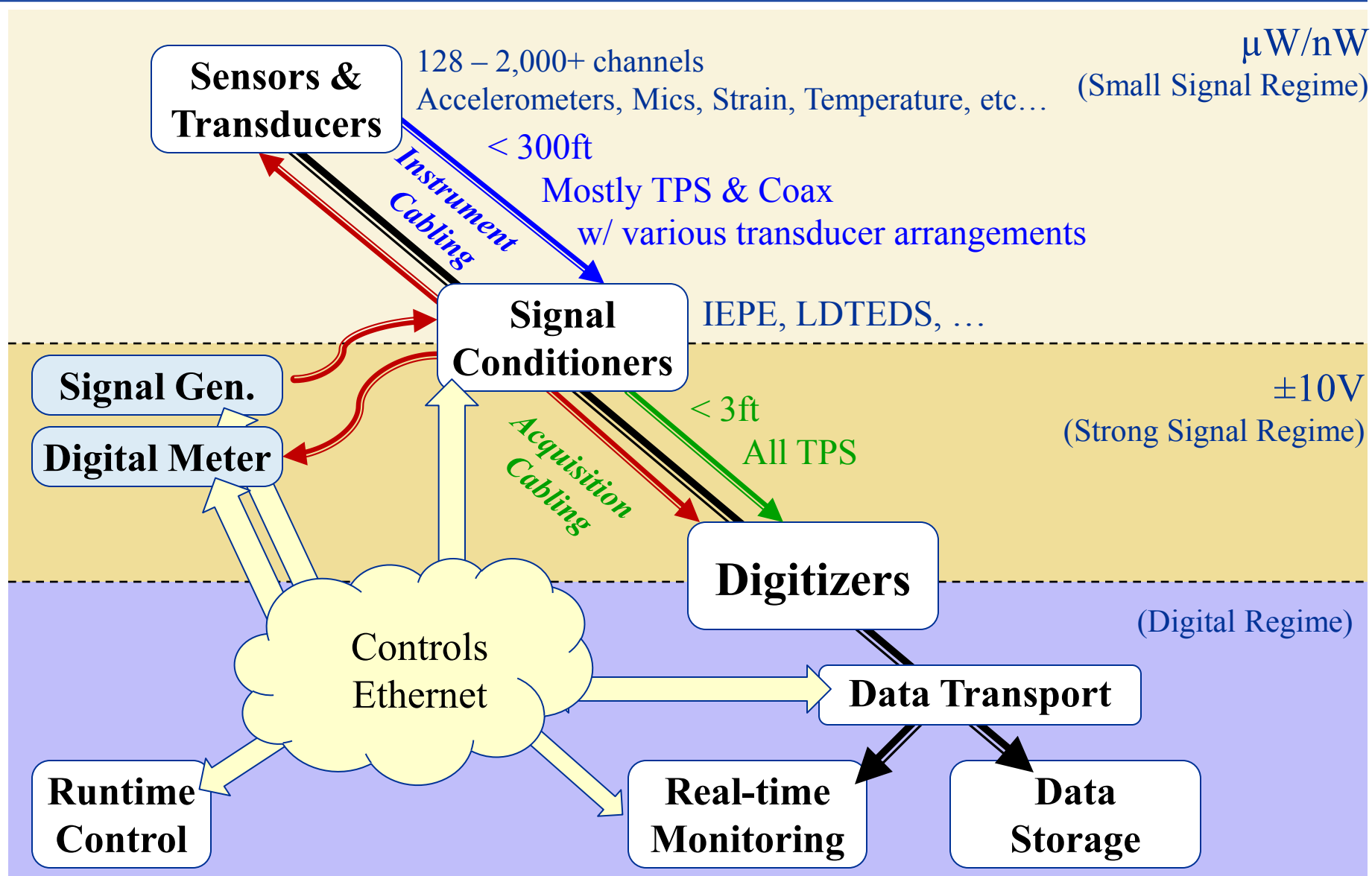




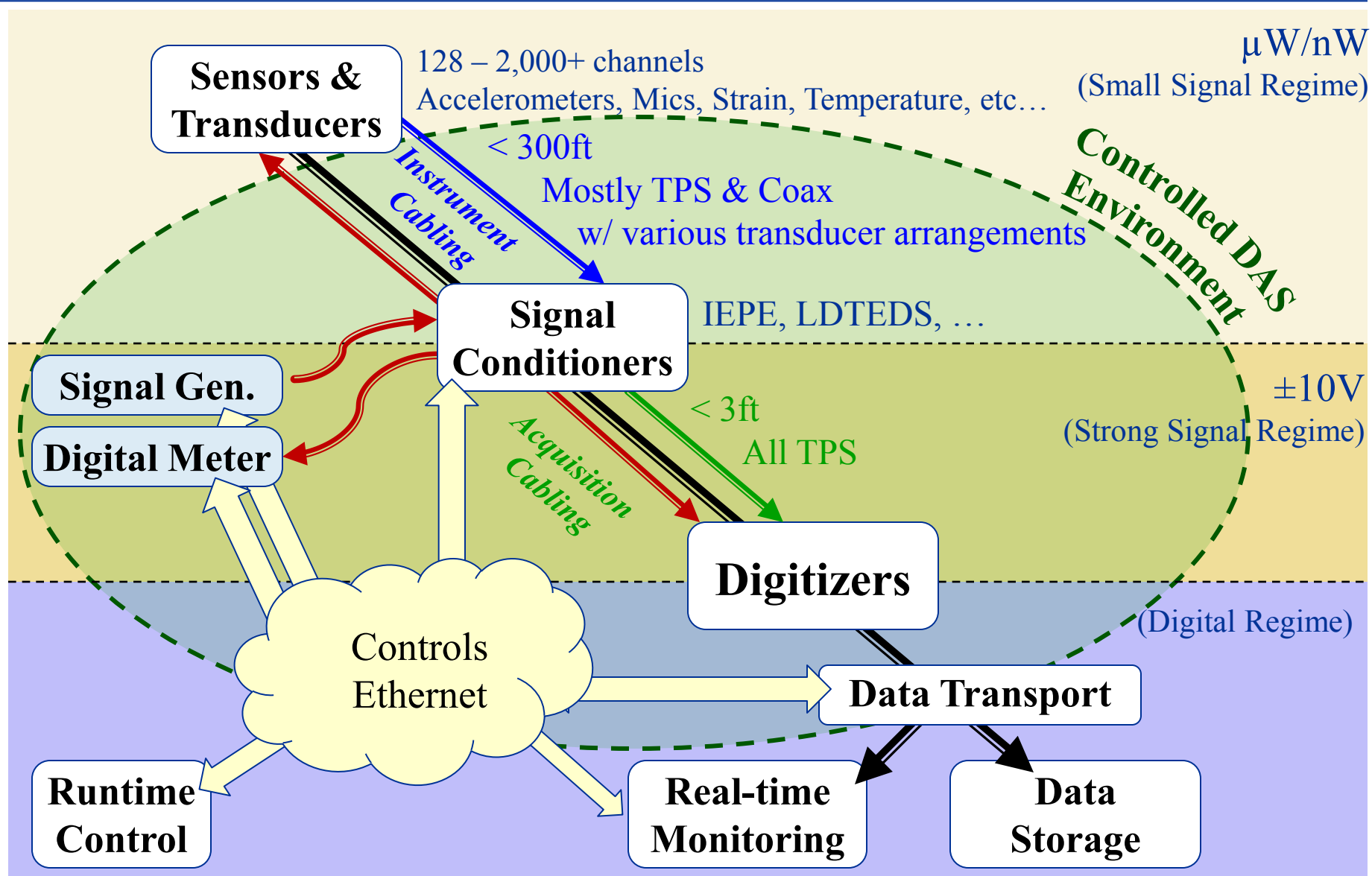
# Modular Distributed Measurement Topology



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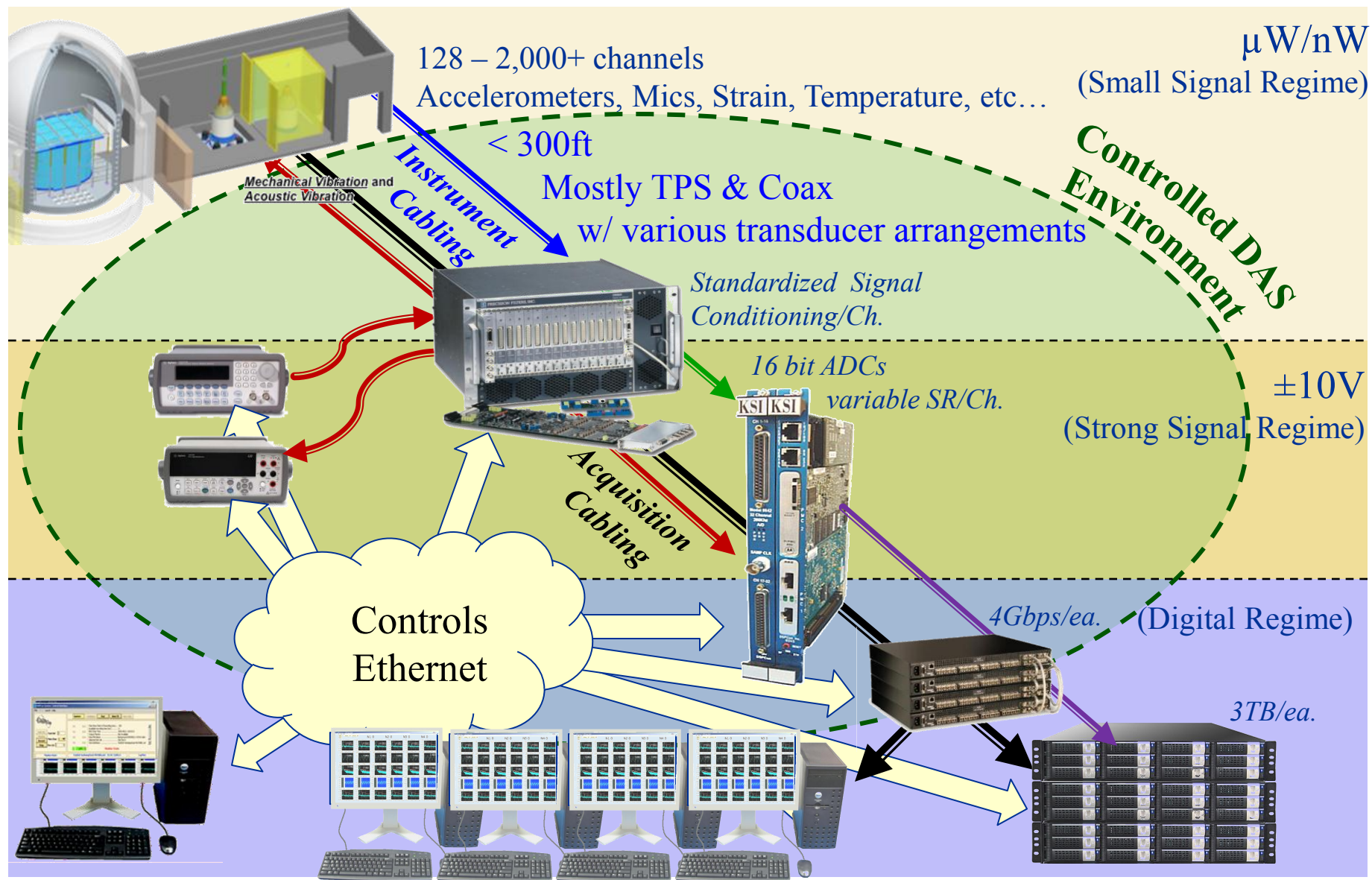


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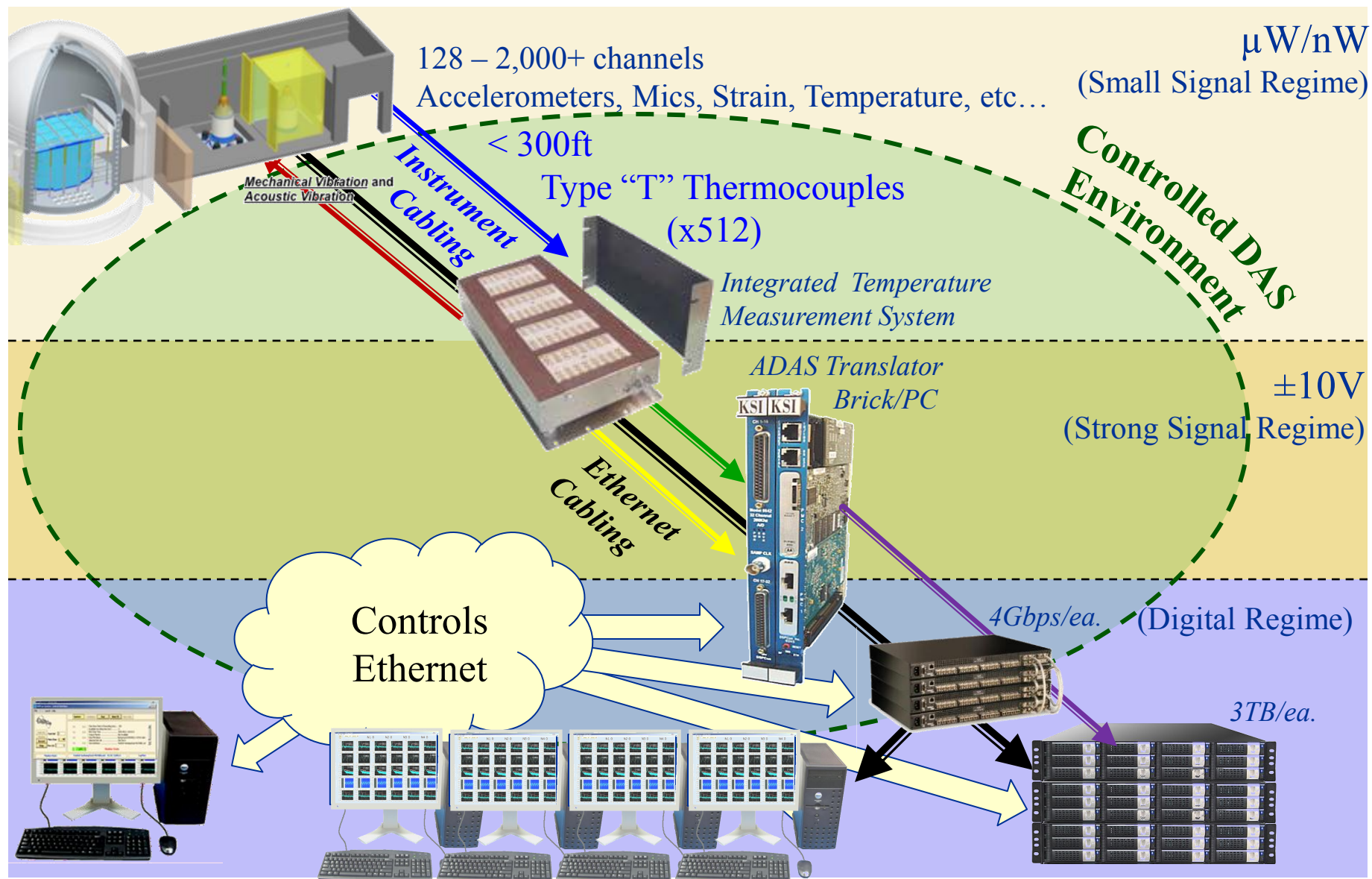




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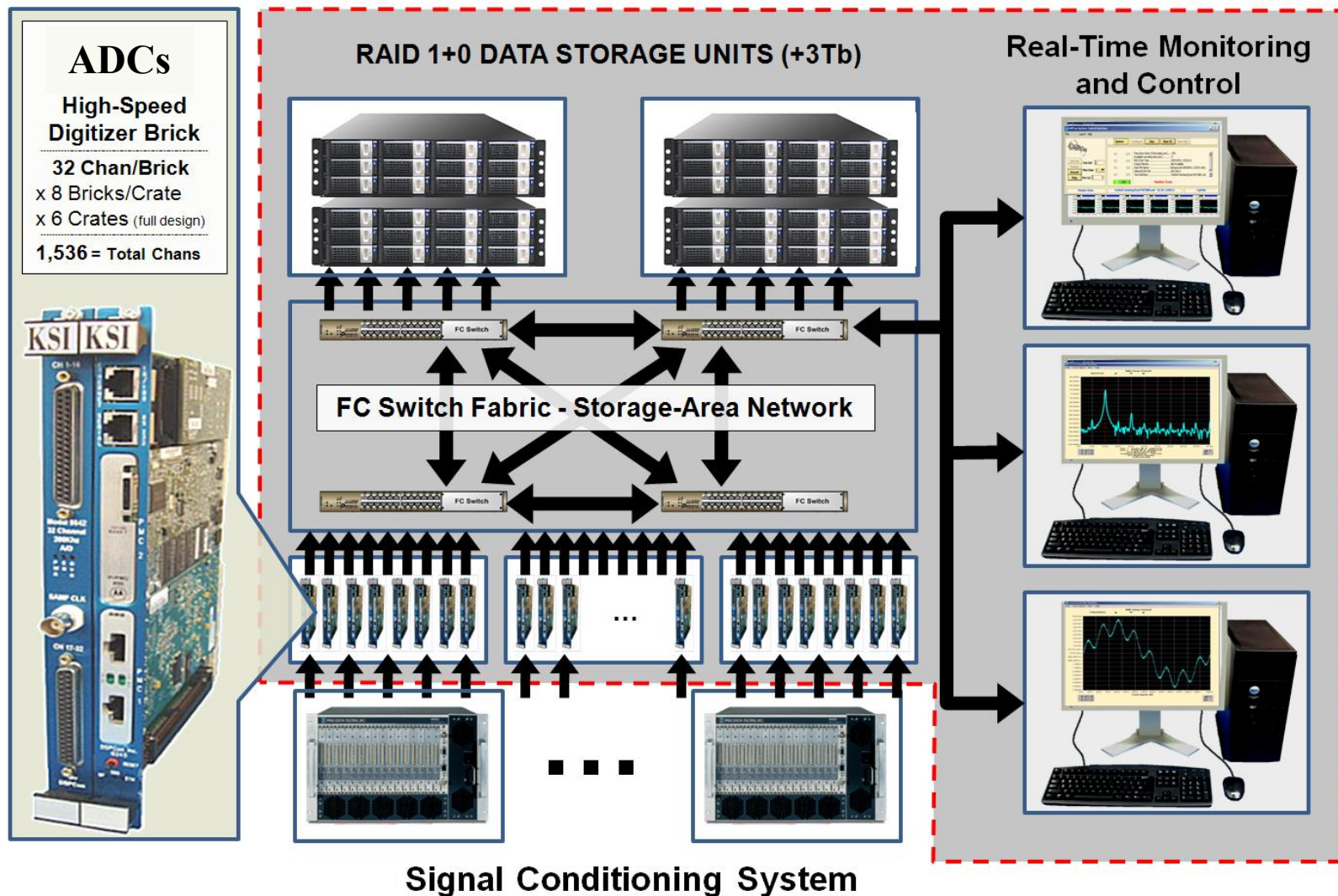


# Modular Distributed Measurement Topology



# Integrated FC-SAN for Distributed Scalability

The completed system forms a Fibre-Channel Storage Area Network





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# DAS - Control and Real-Time Display

System Configuration is done using a MS-Excel Spreadsheet

NASA GLENN Example TDF SUBADDRESS 20080401.xls [Compatibility Mode] - Microsoft Excel

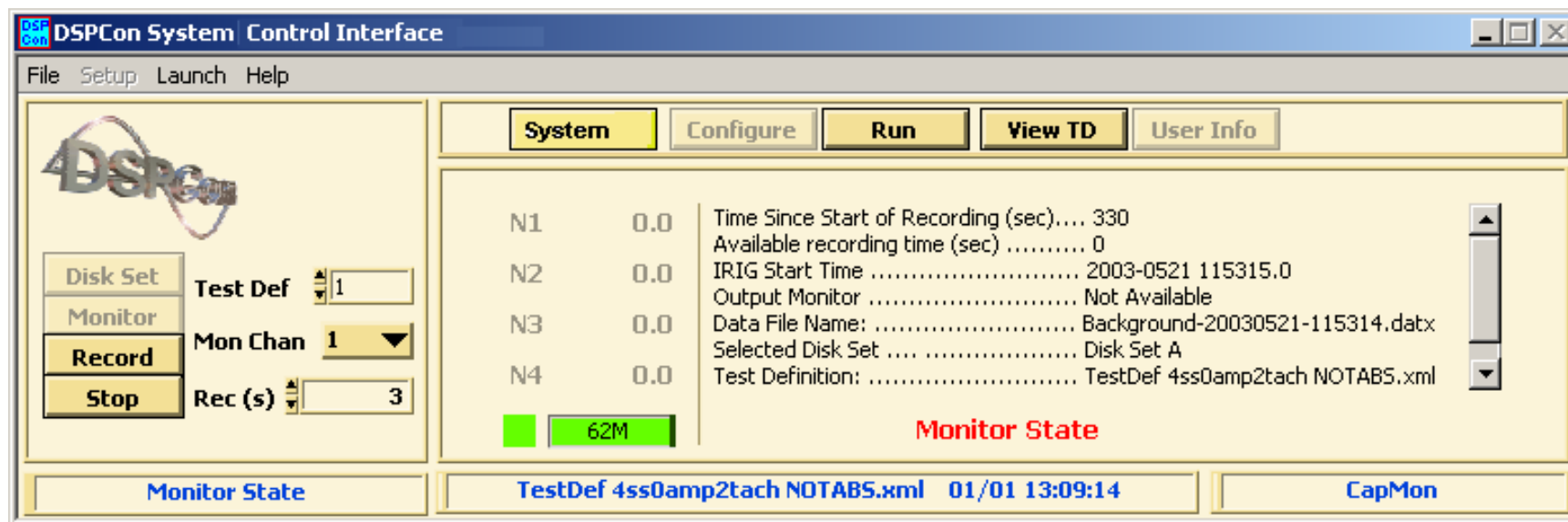
|    | B        | C                | D    | E               | F             | G                     | H             | I                 | J              | K        | L            | M                           |
|----|----------|------------------|------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------------|---------------|-------------------|----------------|----------|--------------|-----------------------------|
|    | Channels |                  |      |                 | Sensor        |                       |               |                   | ADC & Controls |          |              | Channel Type                |
|    | Number   | Channel Enabled? | Name | Display Scaling | Cal Poly      | Sensitivity (volt/EU) | Offset (volt) | Engineering Units | Sample Rate    | ADC Gain | ADC Coupling | CSC Card Type               |
| 3  | 1        | True             | C01  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 4  | 2        | True             | C02  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 5  | 3        | True             | C03  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 6  | 4        | True             | C04  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 7  | 5        | True             | C05  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 8  | 6        | True             | C06  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 9  | 7        | True             | C07  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 10 | 8        | True             | C08  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 11 | 9        | True             | C09  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 12 | 10       | True             | C10  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 13 | 11       | True             | C11  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 14 | 12       | True             | C12  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 15 | 13       | True             | C13  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 16 | 14       | True             | C14  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 17 | 15       | True             | C15  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 18 | 16       | True             | C16  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 19 | 17       | True             | C17  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 20 | 18       | True             | C18  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 21 | 19       | True             | C19  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 22 | 20       | True             | C20  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 23 | 21       | True             | C21  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 24 | 22       | True             | C22  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 25 | 23       | True             | C23  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 26 | 24       | True             | C24  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 27 | 25       | True             | C25  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 28 | 26       | True             | C26  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 29 | 27       | True             | C27  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |

Channel LowSpeed Channel Dynamic Channel Digital File Header Tachometer Information System Variables Alarm Definition Cal Correction Online Processing DefineChannelMap

Ready Count: 12 131%

# DAS - Control and Real-Time Display

System Operation is accomplished using a simple GUI Interface



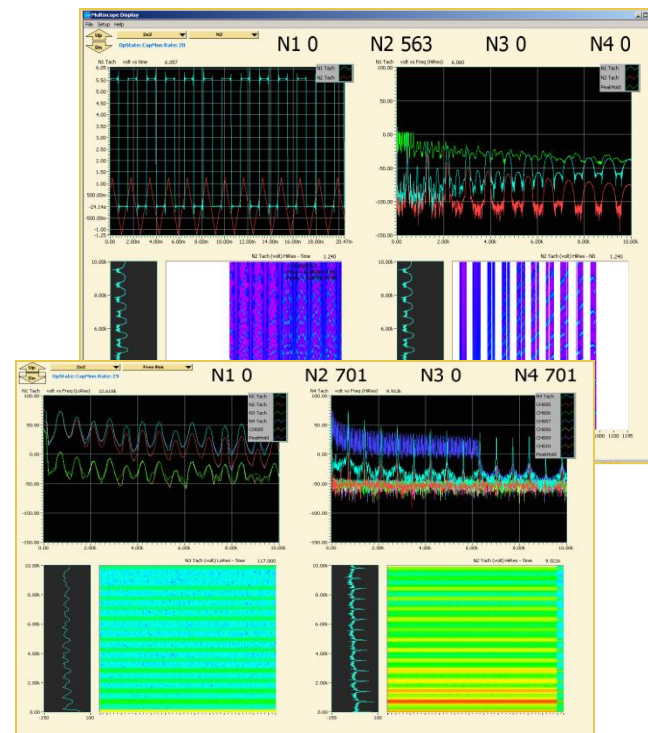
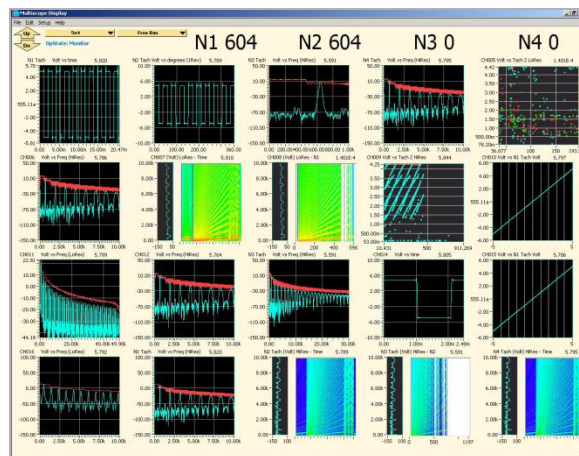
## Other Features:

- ✓ Monitor Disk Usage
- ✓ Monitor System Health (Watchdog)
- ✓ Monitor Mode – Ability to Monitor without Acquiring until triggered (Monitor Mode will capture data prior to the event once triggered)

# DAS - Control and Real-Time Display

## Real-Time Display Capabilities

- ✓ Time Plots
  - ✓ Frequency (FFT)
  - ✓ N<sup>th</sup> Octave Plots
  - ✓ Signal Transfer Functions
  - ✓ many others
- in many different combinations and arrangements
- ✓ and on multiple “Data Monitoring” PCs





## Real-Time Display Types – Limits & Alarms

- ✓ Multiscope also allows for Real-time Monitoring of Alarm & Limits Settings for both Peak Amplitude for each Channel AND per Frequency/Per Channel

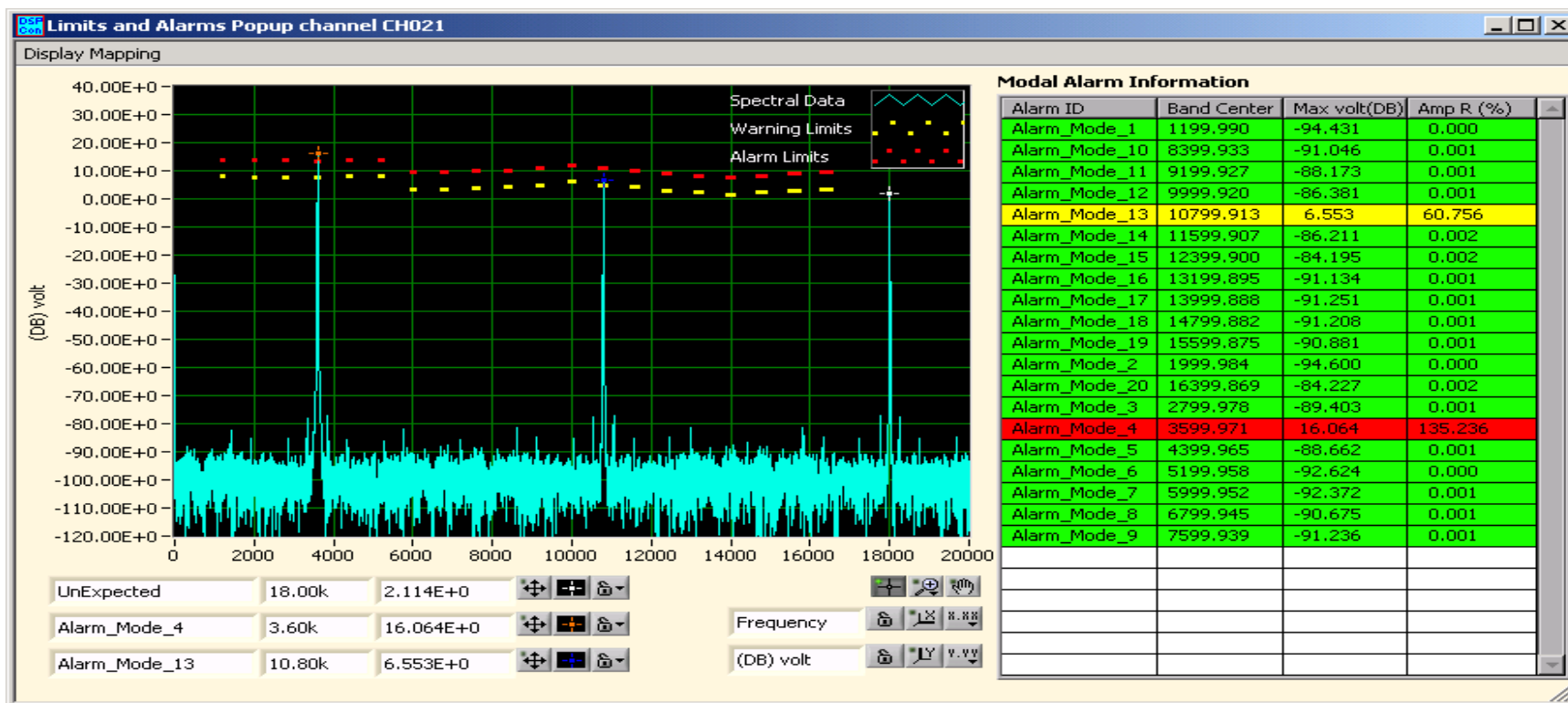




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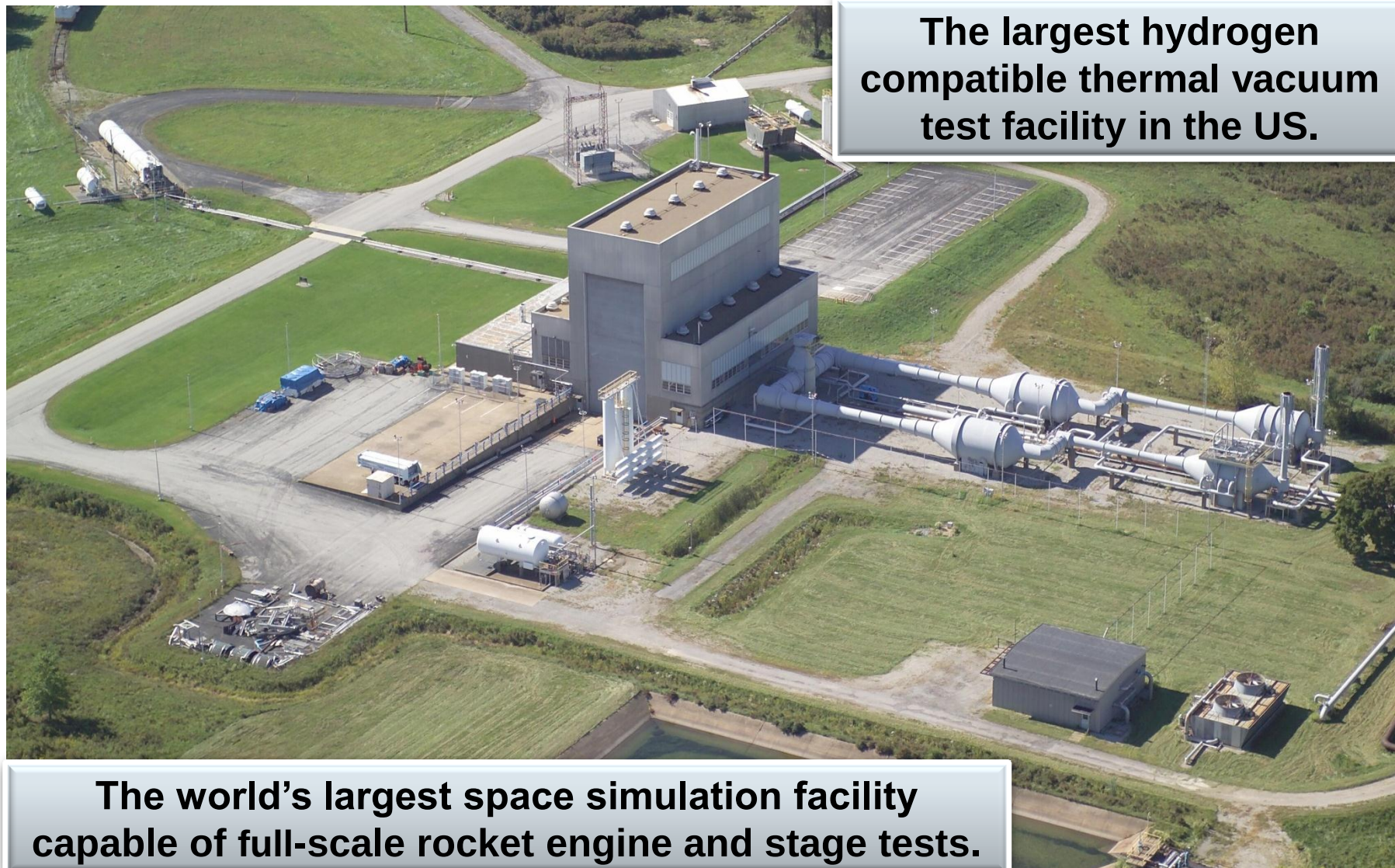


Ideal for High Altitude Engine Testing





# B-2 Facility — Upper-stage Thermal-Vac Chamber (33ft dia. x 55ft high)



**The largest hydrogen compatible thermal vacuum test facility in the US.**

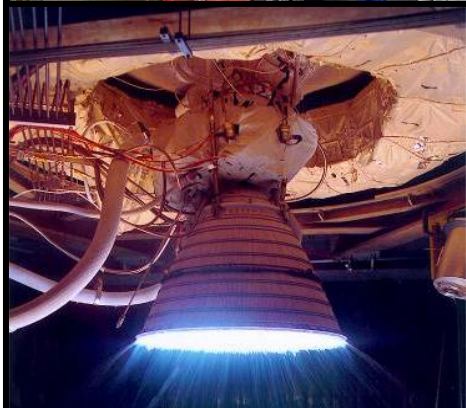
**The world's largest space simulation facility capable of full-scale rocket engine and stage tests.**



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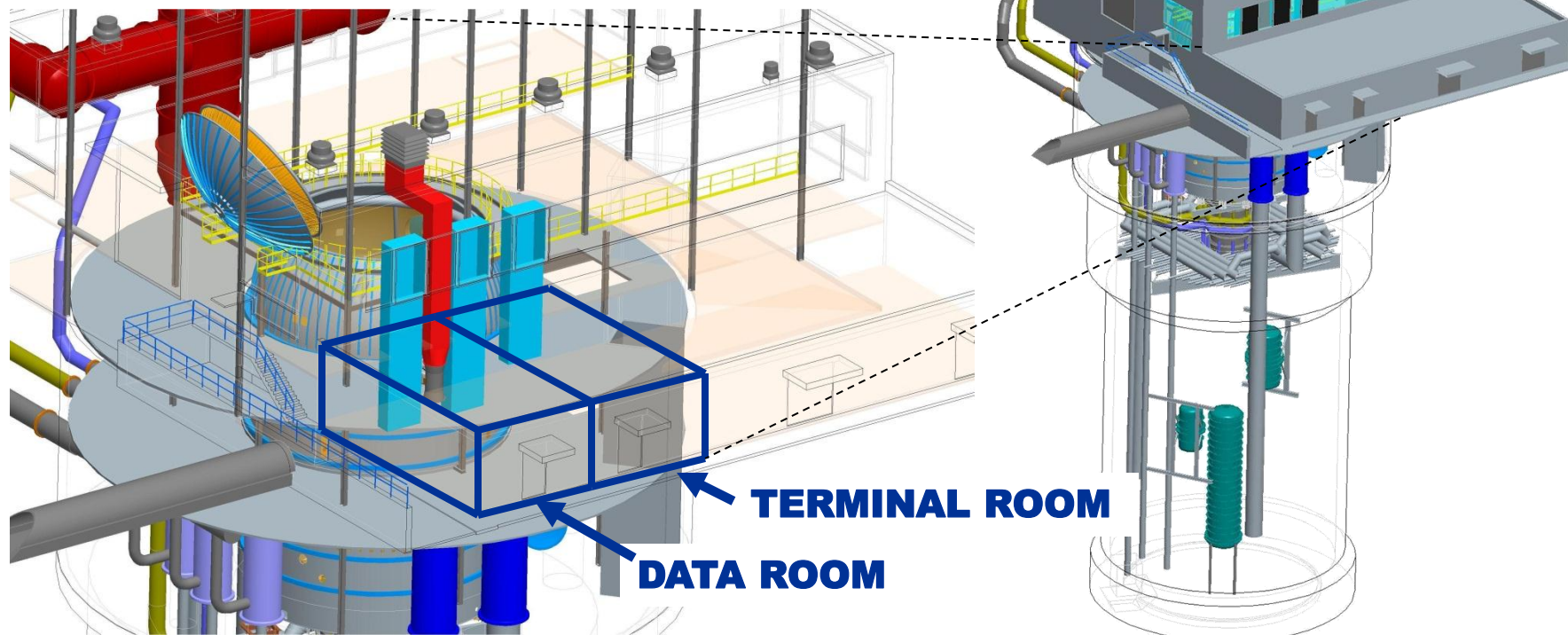
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# B-2 Facility

## Unique DAS Challenges at B-2

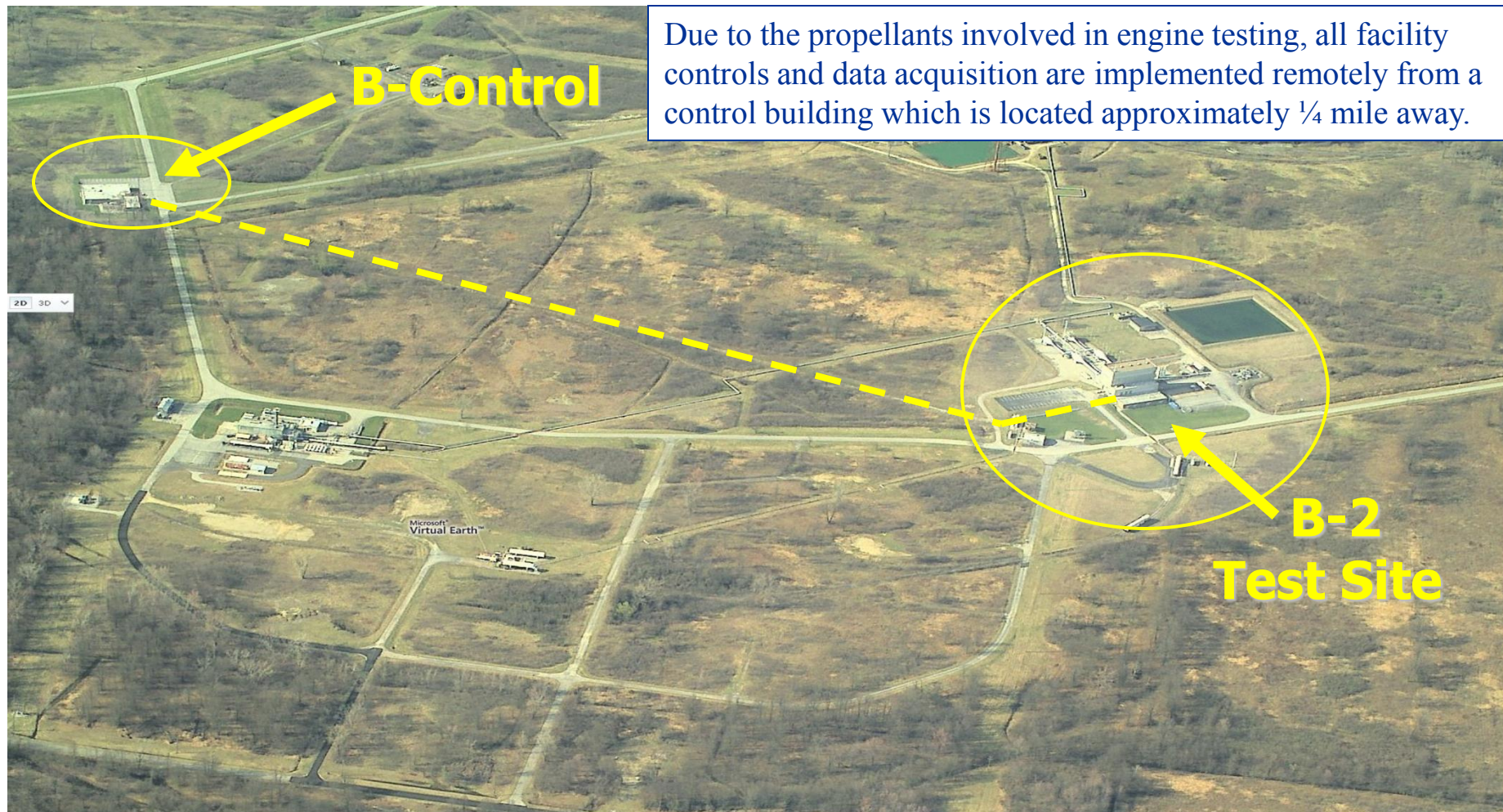
The data acquisition and control systems of B-2 are designed such that all of the field instrumentation signals and data acquisition hardware is consolidated into a set of Class I Div 2 Group B support rooms, one of which is dedicated for the Data Acquisition System.





# B-2 Facility

## Unique DAS Challenges at B-2





# B-2 Facility

## DAS Signal Flow

### B-2 Test Facility

Test Chamber

Ramp Level  
Data DAS Cabinets

Diffusion Pump Level  
Data DAS Cabinets

Aux. Signal  
Conditioning

### B-2 Data Room

Signal Conditioning and Digitizers  
and Fiber Network Racks

Interconnects &  
Signal Conditioning

Fiber &  
Networking

Interconnects &  
Signal Conditioning

Digitizers

### B-2 Control

Data Recording Units and  
DAS Process Control



Data System Operations in the  
Control Room at B-Control

# B-2 Facility – Dedicated Data Room





# B-2 Facility DAS – Summary



Designed for High Altitude Engine Testing



| Instrument Cabling to Test Chamber             |                                         | Quantities          |
|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1                                              | Single Pair, Twisted-Pair Shielded      | >1,700 Ch. 1PR TPS  |
| 2                                              | Four-Wire, Twisted-Pair Shielded        | 312 Ch. of 4C / Ch. |
| 3                                              | Impedance Matched Coaxial               | ~64 Ch.             |
| <b>Signal Conditioning Equipment</b>           |                                         |                     |
| 4                                              | Constant-Voltage Bridge Conditioners    | 76 Ch.              |
| 5                                              | Constant-Current Bridge Conditioners    | 32 Ch.              |
| 6                                              | ICP/IEPE Conditioners                   | 48 Ch.              |
| 7                                              | Charge-Type Amplifiers                  |                     |
| 8                                              | Filter/Amplifier Signal Conditioners    | 160 Ch.             |
| 9                                              | Frequency-to-Voltage                    | 28 Ch.              |
| 10                                             | Direct Voltage Inputs                   | 600+ (see ADCs)     |
| 11                                             | UTR Thermocouple Conditioners           | <tb>                |
| <b>Digitizing Equipment (ADCs)</b>             |                                         |                     |
| 12                                             | High-Speed Digitizers (110 kHz MBW/Ch.) | 32 Ch.              |
| 13                                             | Low-Speed Digitizers (1 kHz MBW/Ch.)    | 576 Ch.             |
| 14                                             | Discrete Channel Acquisition            | 32 Ch.              |
| <b>Data Storage</b>                            |                                         |                     |
| 15                                             | RAID 1+0 redundant fail-over storage    | 2.5 – 3 Terabytes   |
| <b>Control, Monitoring and Post-Processing</b> |                                         |                     |
| 16                                             | Dedicated Control Computers             | 2                   |
| 17                                             | Dedicated Monitoring Computers          | 4                   |
| 18                                             | Dedicated Post-Processing Computer      | 1                   |
| <b>Other Notable System Elements</b>           |                                         |                     |
| 19                                             | IRIG-B Distribution                     | All                 |
| 20                                             | LTO-3 Tape Archival System              | All                 |

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Designed for High Altitude Engine Testing





# Space Power Facility (SPF)

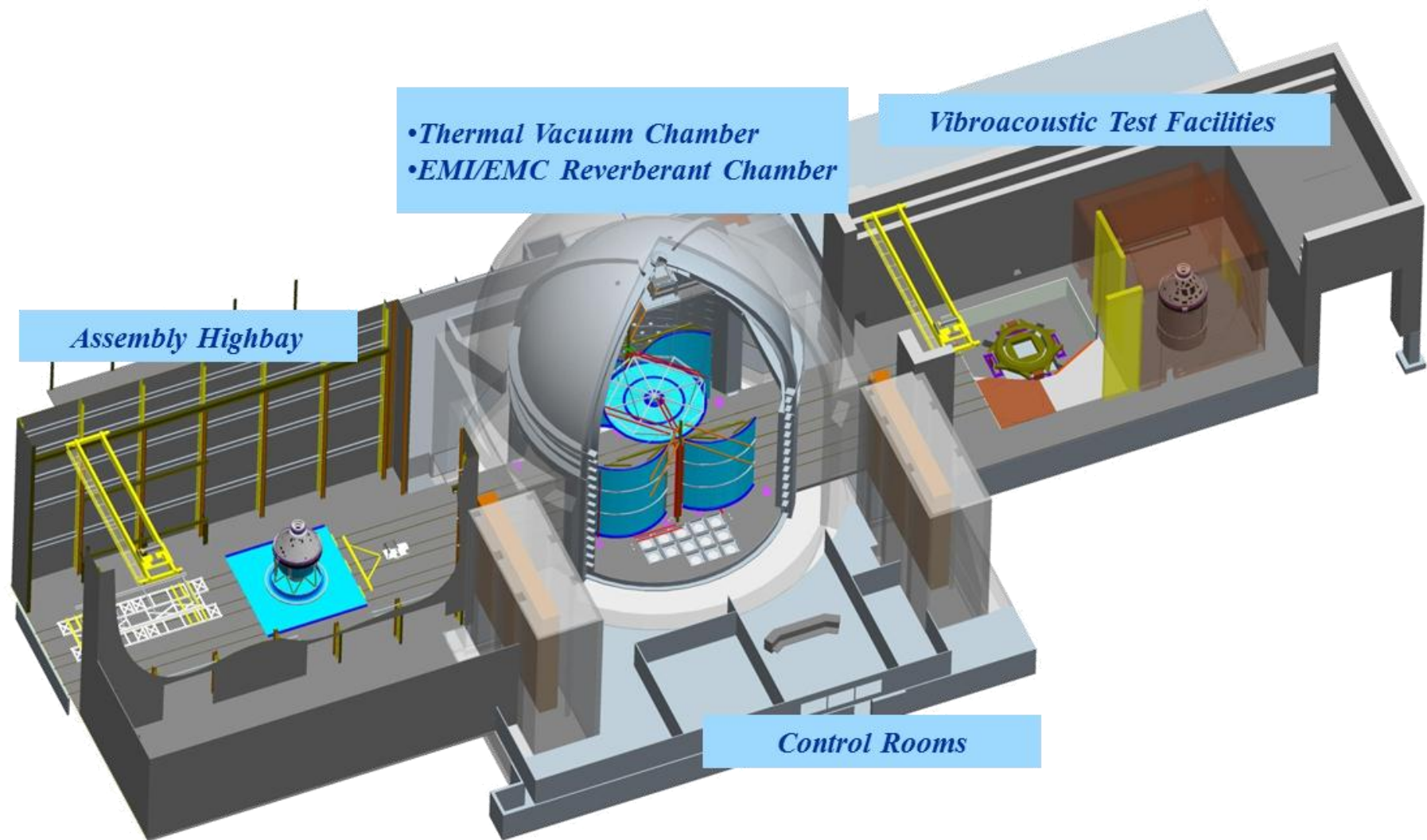
## Space Environment Testing under one roof

- Thermal-Vacuum
- EMI/EMC
- Acoustic
- Vibration



**The World's largest space environment simulation chamber**

# Space Power Facility (SPF)



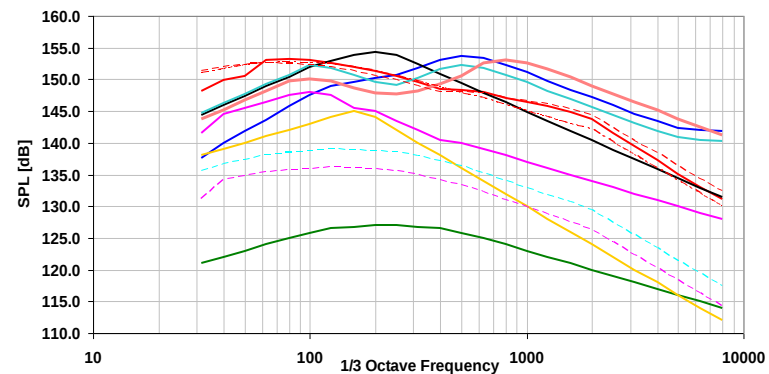


# Space Power Facility – Acoustic Facility

## SPF – Reverberant Acoustic Test Facility



- ~101,000 ft<sup>3</sup> chamber volume
- ~ 37ft (w) x 47ft (d) x 57ft (h)
- ~ 163dB OASPL (Overall Sound Pressure Level)
- 20k Hz Measurement Bandwidth



### DAS Measurements Channels to RATF

- 800 - IEPE accels and/or microphones
- 40 - IEPE/charge conditioners
- 184 - 4-arm strain gauge conditioners

# Space Power Facility – Vibration Facility

## SPF - Mechanical Vibration Facility (MVF)

- 3-axis servo-hydraulic shaker
- Annulus design ~18ft dia.
- Sized for 75,000 lb test articles
- ~4 million lb seismic mass
- 5 -150 Hz Sine Vib.
  - 1.25 g Vert.
  - 1.0 g Lateral

### Data System

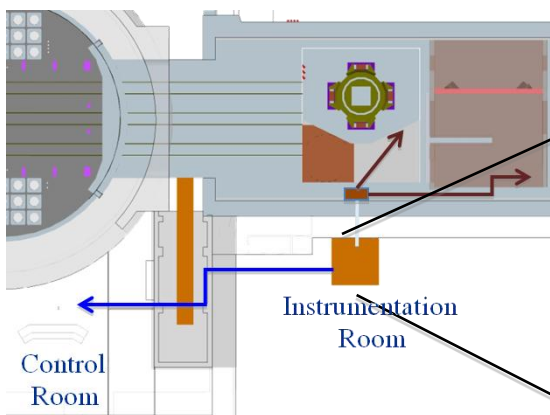
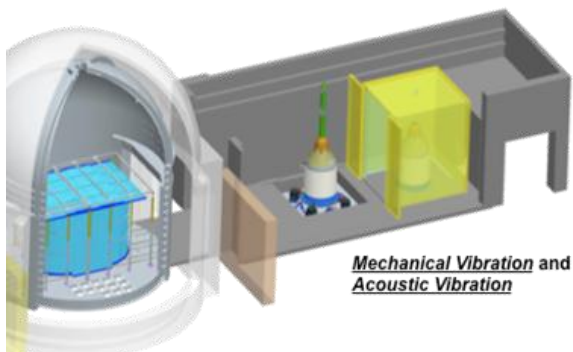
#### Measurements Channels to MVF

- 800 - IEPE Accel. conditioners
- 40 - IEPE/Charge conditioners
- 184 - 4-arm Strain gauges





# SPF - FDAS - Instrument (Data) Room

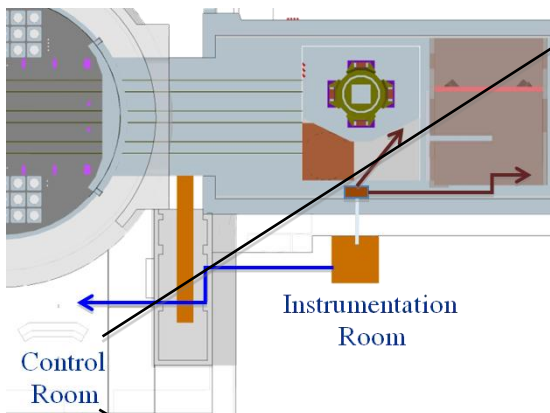
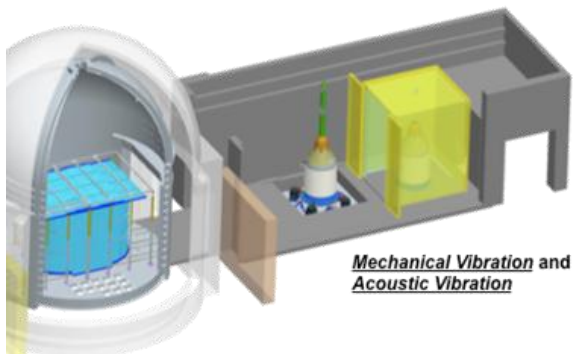


The 1,024 (1,536) Measurement Channels of the HSDAS can be “switched” between the three test locations within a 24 hours period at the “Interface Panel” in the VTC High-bay.



From the Interface Panel in the VTC High-Bay area, all 1,024 (1,536) Channels are routed through the wall and into the HSDAS Instrument Room. The Instrument Room houses all of the Signal Conditioning and Digitizing Hardware

# SPF - FDAS – Integrated Control Room



The 1,024 (1,536) Measurement Channels of the HSDAS can be “switched” between the three test locations within a 24 hours period at the “Interface Panel” in the VTC High-bay.





# SPF Vibroacoustic FDAS – Summary



Designed for Large-Scale Environment Testing



| Instrument Cabling to the MVF table and RATF chambers |                                              | Num. of Channels  |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1                                                     | Single Pair, Twisted-Pair Shielded           | >1,700 Ch. TPS    |
| 2                                                     | Impedance Matched Coaxial to/from ACS        | 64 Ch.            |
| 3                                                     | Impedance Matched Coaxial to/from VCS        | 64 Ch.            |
| <b>Signal Conditioning Equipment</b>                  |                                              |                   |
| 4                                                     | ICP/IEPE Conditioners                        | 800 Ch.           |
| 5                                                     | Constant-Voltage Bridge Conditioners         | 160 Ch.           |
| 6                                                     | Direct Voltage Inputs from ACS/VCS           | 64 Ch.            |
| 7                                                     | Buffered Voltage Outputs to ACS/VCS          | 64 Ch.            |
| <b>Digitizing Equipment (ADCs)</b>                    |                                              |                   |
| 8                                                     | High-Speed Digitizers (20 kHz MBW/50 kHz SR) | 1024 Ch.          |
| <b>Data Storage</b>                                   |                                              |                   |
| 9                                                     | RAID 1+0 redundant fail-over storage         | 3 Terabytes total |
| <b>Control, Monitoring and Post-Processing</b>        |                                              |                   |
| 10                                                    | Dedicated Control Computers                  | 1                 |
| 11                                                    | Dedicated Monitoring Computers               | 3                 |
| 12                                                    | Dedicated Post-Processing Computer           | 1                 |
| <b>Other Notable System Elements</b>                  |                                              |                   |
| 13                                                    | IRIG-B Distribution                          | All               |
| 14                                                    | LTO-3 Tape Archive                           | All               |

# Presentation Outline

## ■ Overview

- Plum Brook location and facilities
- Summary of recent facility upgrades at Plum Brook

## ■ Plum Brook Facility DAS Design Drivers

- Goals
- Challenges
- Measurement Topology
- Architecture
- Specifications and Capabilities of shared assets

## ■ Overview of Plum Brook Data Systems

- B-2 Facility DAS
- SPF Vibroacoustic Facilities DAS
- SPF Thermal-Vacuum Chamber DAS

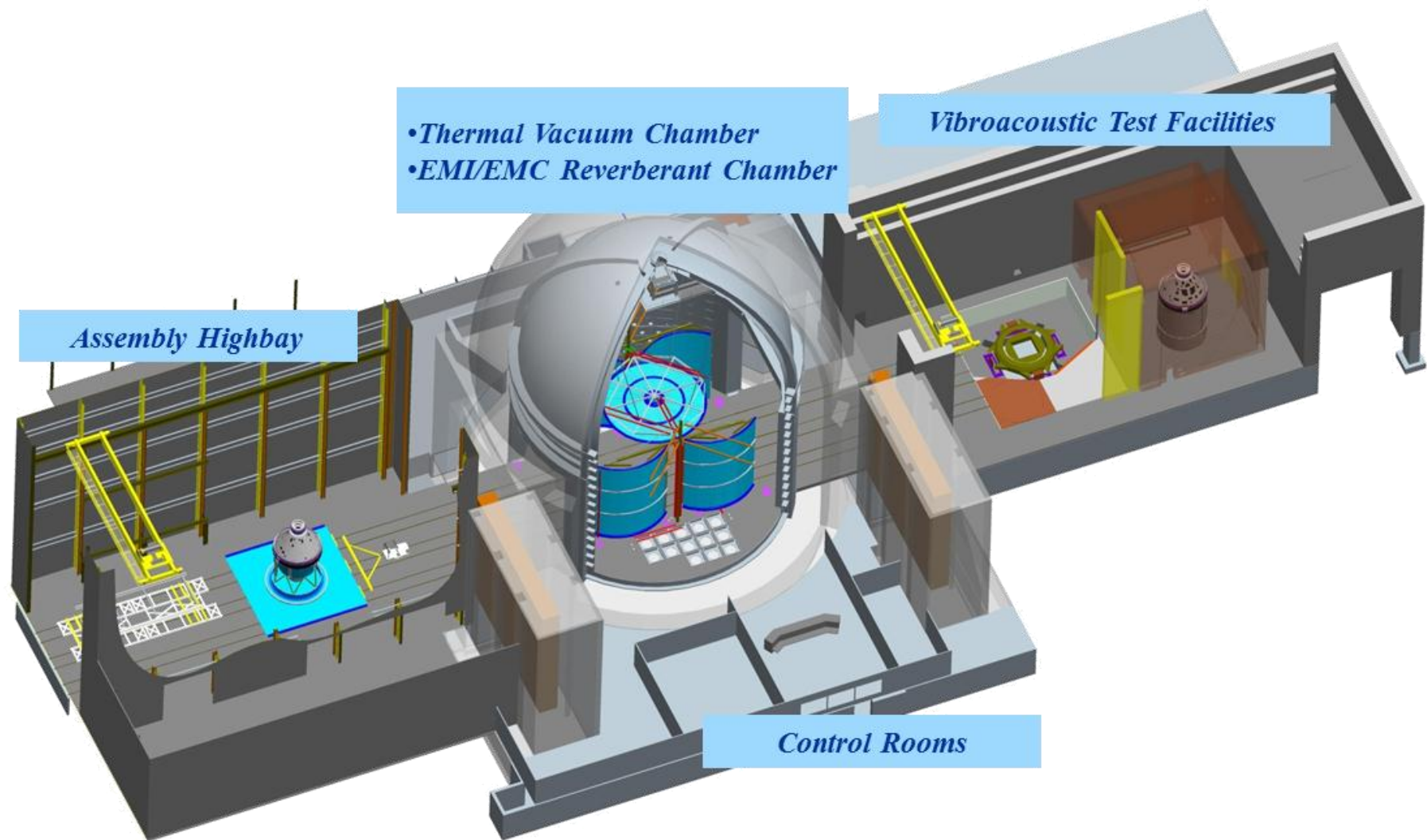


Designed for Large-Scale Environment Testing

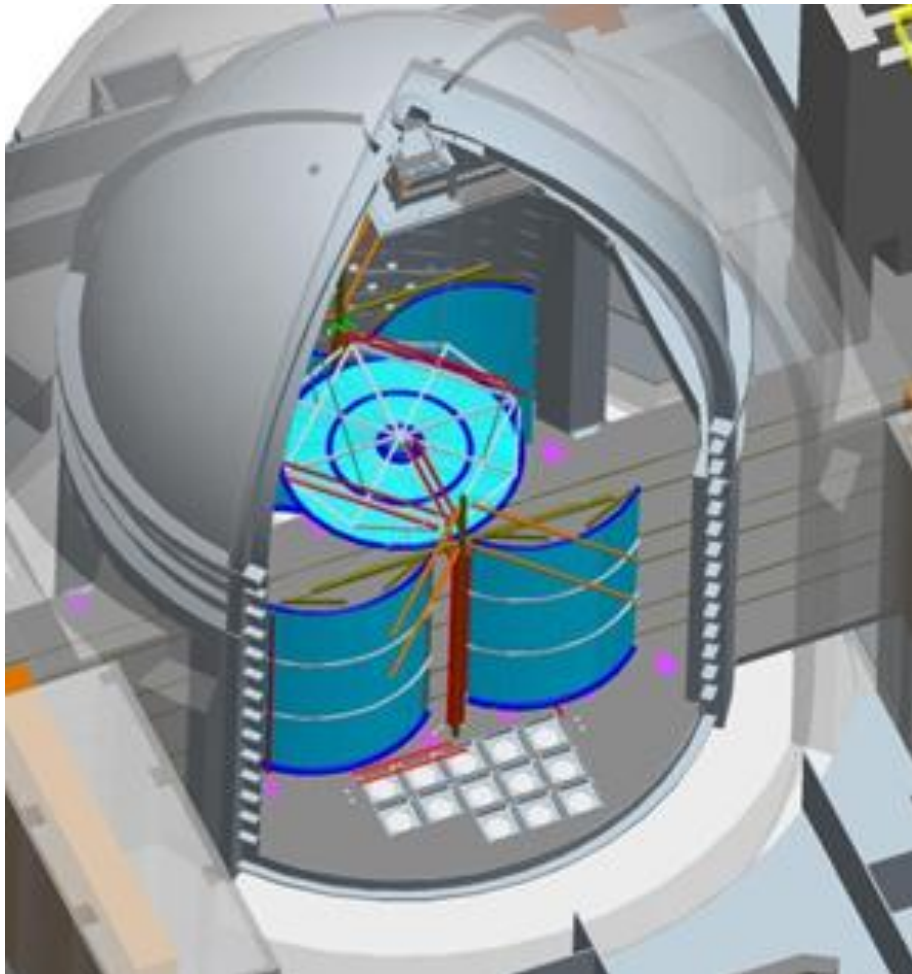




# Space Power Facility (SPF)



# SPF Thermal-Vacuum – Chamber Description



**Thermal-Vacuum Tests  
Require “Low-Speed” DAS**



**Altitude Performance Tests  
Require “High-Speed” DAS**

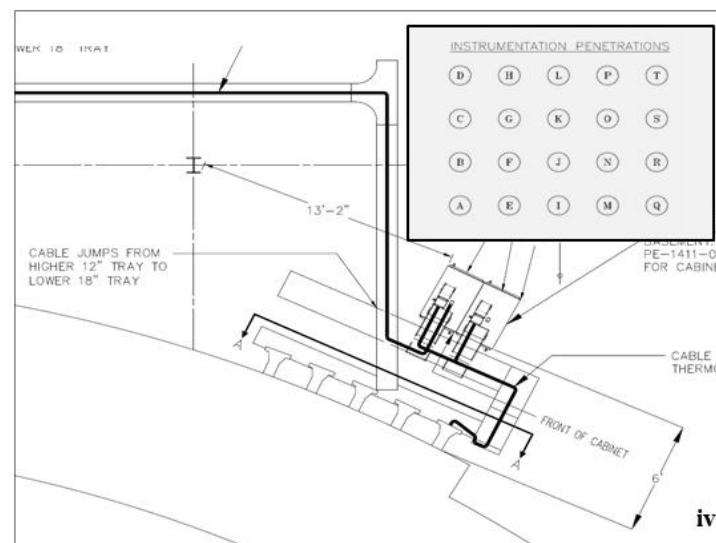
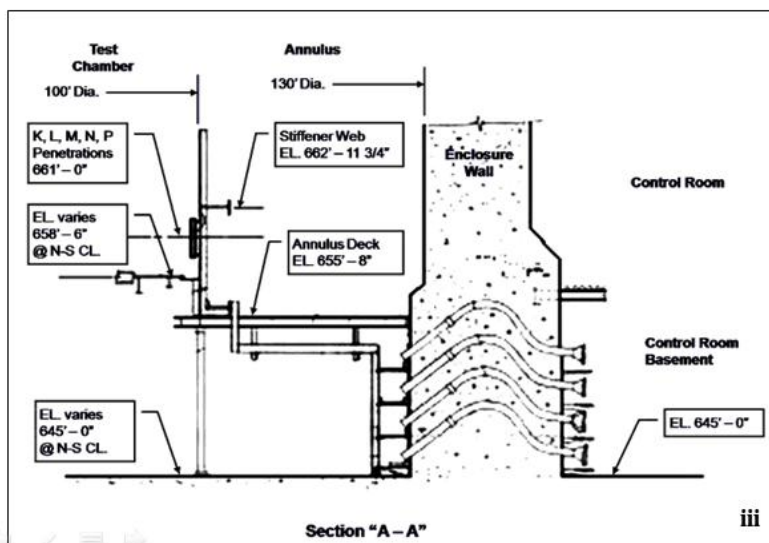
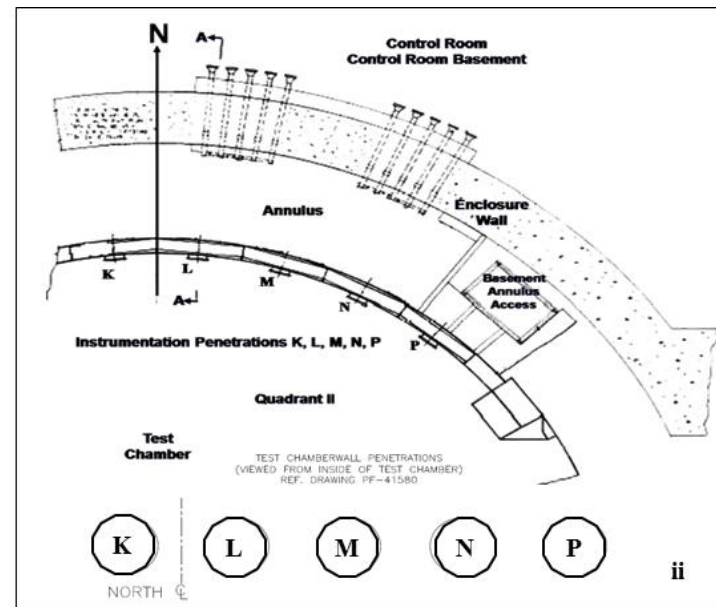
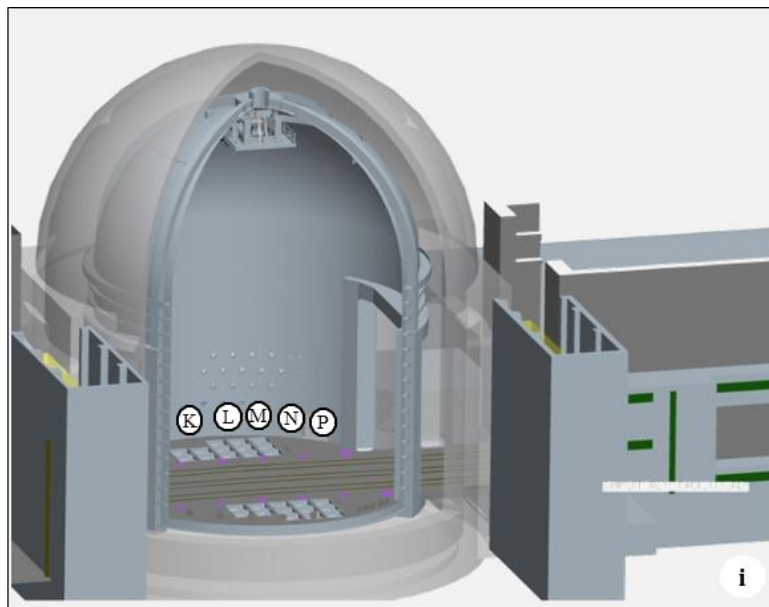


# SPF Thermal-Vacuum – Chamber Connections





# SPF Thermal-Vacuum – Annulus Feedthroughs



# SPF Thermal-Vacuum – Outside Connections



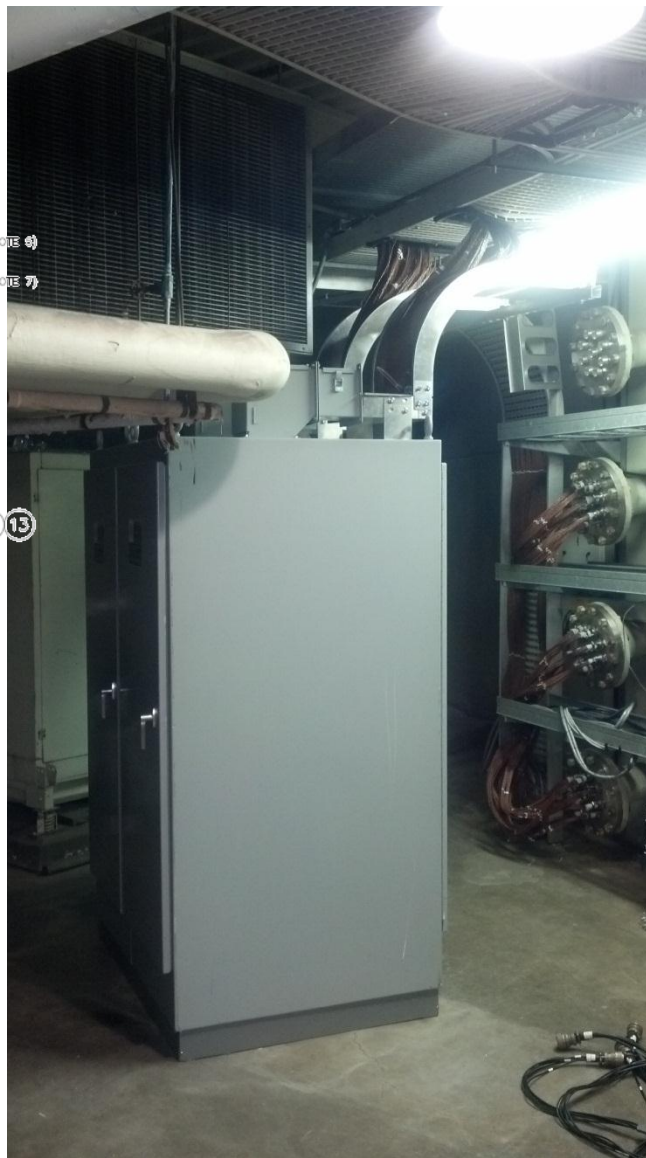
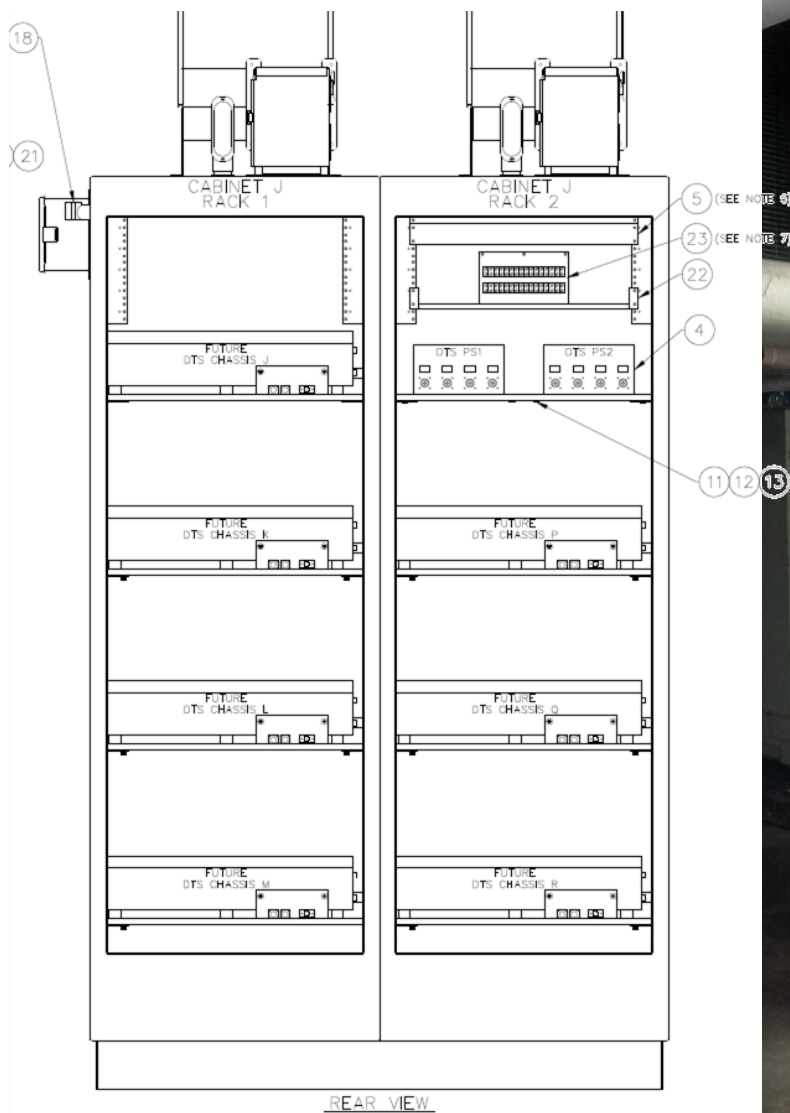


# SPF Thermal-Vacuum – Outside Connections



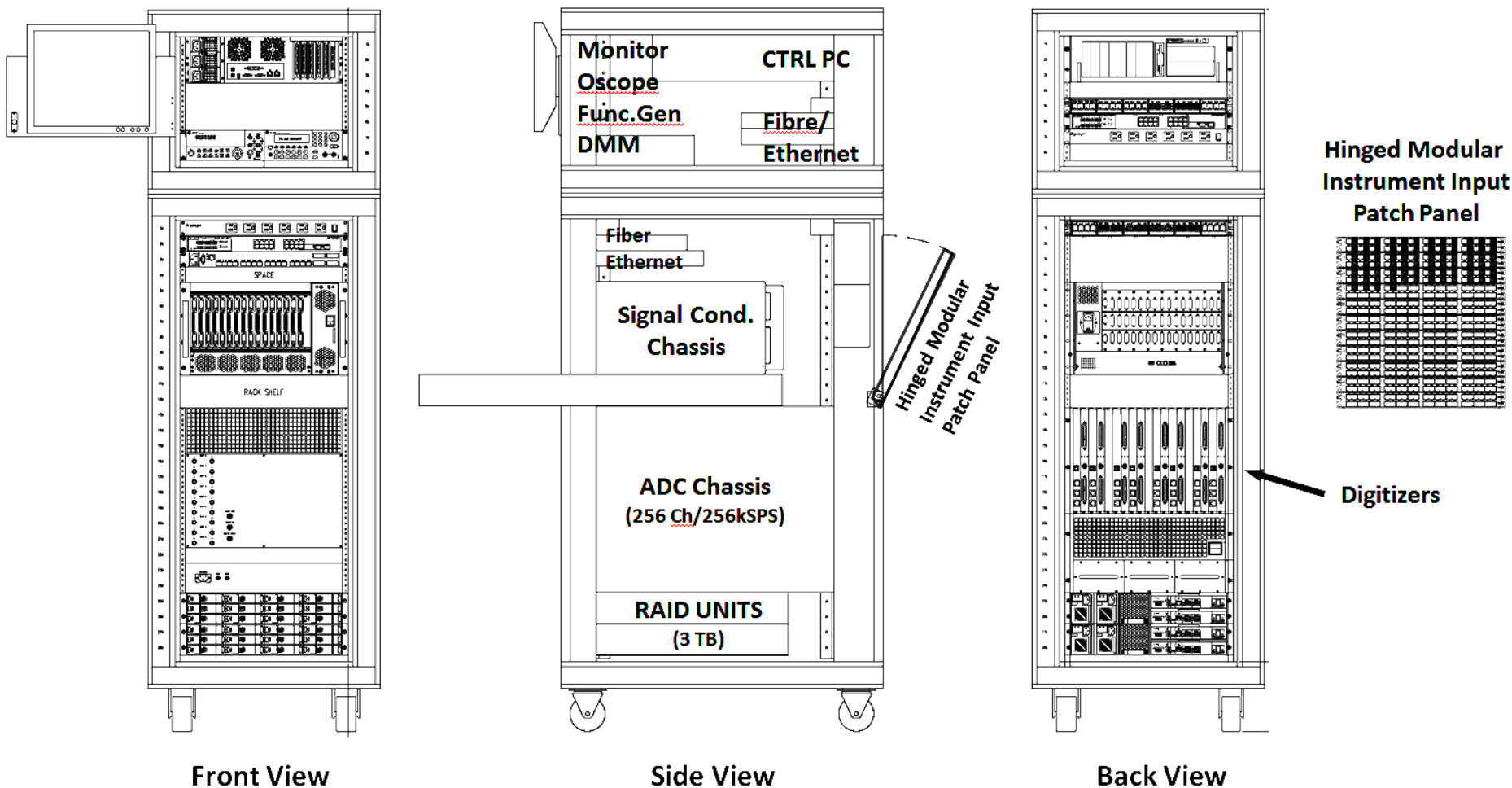


# SPF Thermal-Vacuum Temperature DAS Racks



# SPF Thermal-Vacuum – Mobile DAS Layout

## (High-Speed/Dynamic, 256 Channels)



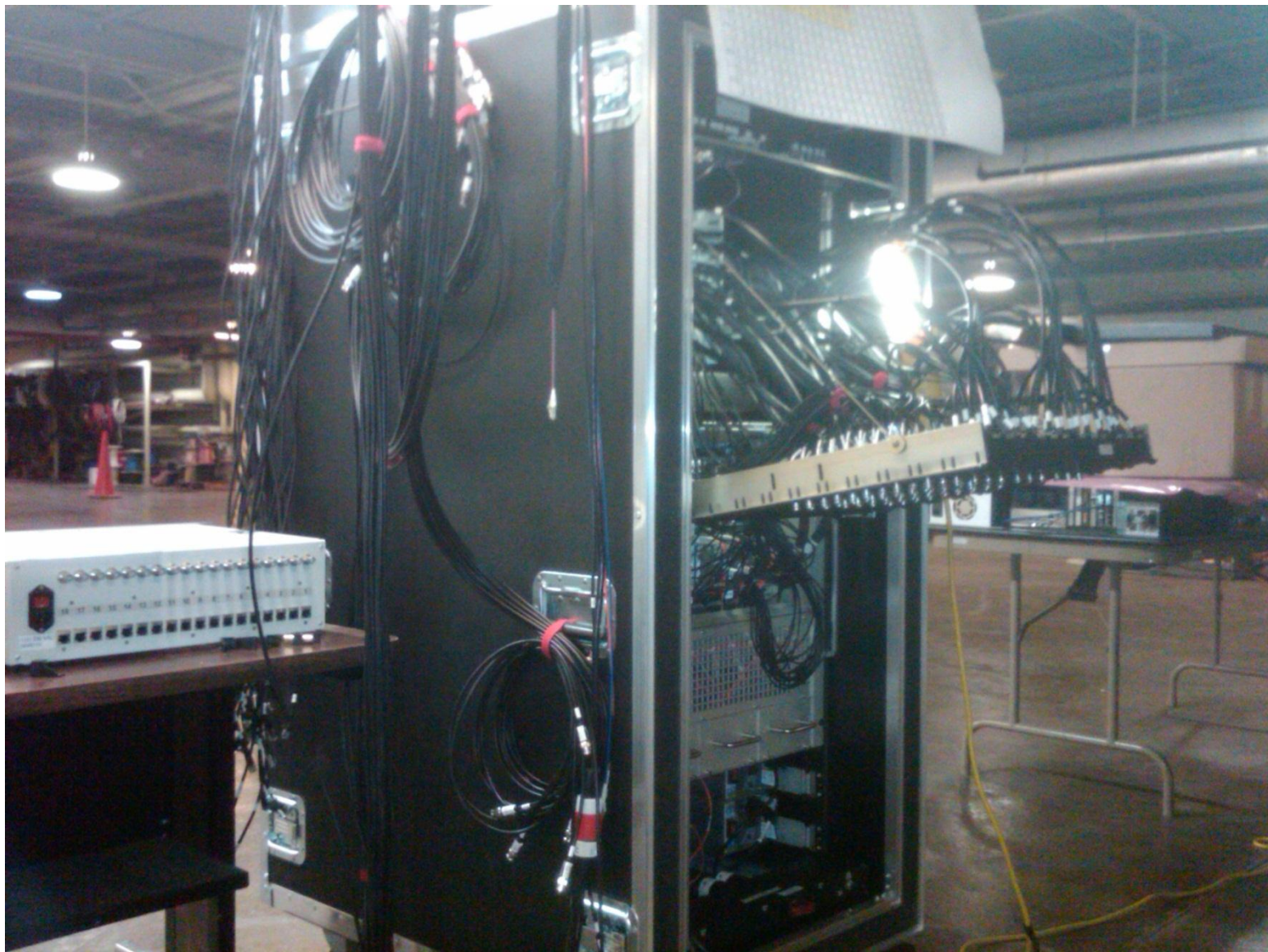


# SPF Thermal-Vacuum MDAS – Front View





# SPF Thermal-Vacuum MDAS – Rear View





# SPF Thermal-Vacuum MDAS – Control



# SPF Thermal-Vacuum MDAS – Summary



Designed for Large-Scale Environment Testing



| Instrument Cabling in the Vacuum Chamber Annulus |                                                 | Num. of Channels  |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1                                                | Single Pair, Twisted-Pair Shielded              | 324 Ch. 1PR TPS   |
| 2                                                | Four-Wire, Twisted-Pair Shielded                | 288 Ch. 4C/Ch.    |
| 3                                                | Impedance Matched Coaxial                       | 126 Ch. BNC       |
| 4                                                | Type-T Thermocouple Instrumentation Wire        | 512 Ch.           |
| <b>Signal Conditioning Equipment</b>             |                                                 |                   |
| 5                                                | ICP/IEPE Conditioners                           | 64 Ch. *          |
| 6                                                | Constant-Voltage Bridge Conditioners            | 48 Ch. †          |
| 7                                                | Charge-Type Conditioners                        | 24 Ch. †          |
| 8                                                | Direct Voltage Inputs                           | 120 Ch.           |
| 9                                                | Buffered Voltage Follower Outputs               | As needed †       |
| 10                                               | Thermocouple Signal Conditioning                |                   |
| <b>Digitizing Equipment (ADCs)</b>               |                                                 |                   |
| 11                                               | High-Speed Digitizers (100 kHz MBW/256 kHz SR)  | 256 Ch.*          |
| 11a                                              | Low-Speed Digitizers/Data-Translators (10Hz SR) | 512 Ch.           |
| <b>Data Storage</b>                              |                                                 |                   |
| 12                                               | RAID 1+0 redundant fail-over storage            | 3 Terabytes total |
| <b>Control, Monitoring and Post-Processing</b>   |                                                 |                   |
| 13                                               | Dedicated Control Computers                     | 1                 |
| 14                                               | Dedicated Monitoring Computers                  | 4*                |
| 15                                               | Dedicated Post-Processing Computer              | 1*                |
| <b>Other Notable System Elements</b>             |                                                 |                   |
| 16                                               | IRIG-B Distribution                             | All               |
| 17                                               | LTO-3 Tape Archive                              | All*              |





*Thank you.*



# *Backup Charts*

# DAS - Signal Conditioning

A Modular, COTS, Fully Remote-Controllable Signal Conditioning Platform has been selected. This system supports all major transducer types and provides unprecedented remote control and monitoring capabilities.

## Current Signal Conditioning System:

- Multiple “Card-Cage” Chassis for Signal Conditioning  
(“n” crates x 16 cards/crate @ 4, 8, and 16 Ch/Card = 512 – 1,536 Channels)





# DAS - Signal Conditioning

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## Current Signal Conditioning System:

- Multiple “Card-Cage” Chassis for Signal Conditioning  
(“n” crates x 16 cards/crate @ 4, 8, and 16 Ch/Card = 512 – 1,536 Channels)



## Current Signal Conditioning System supports the following measurement types:

- Voltage Bridge Conditioners  
(42 cards @ 4 ch/card = 168 channels)
- Constant Current Conditioners  
(12 cards @ 4 ch/card = 48 channels )
- Voltage Amplifier/Filter  
(25 cards @ 8 ch/card = 200 channels)
- IEPE/ICP Accels/Microphones  
(50 cards @ 16 ch/card = 800 channels)
- Charge/Voltage Accelerometers  
( 6 cards @ 4 ch/card = 24 channels )
- Frequency to Voltage Converters  
( 8 cards @ 4 ch/card = 32 channels )

# DAS – ADCs (Digitizers)

## VME-based Digitizer Modules (“Bricks”)

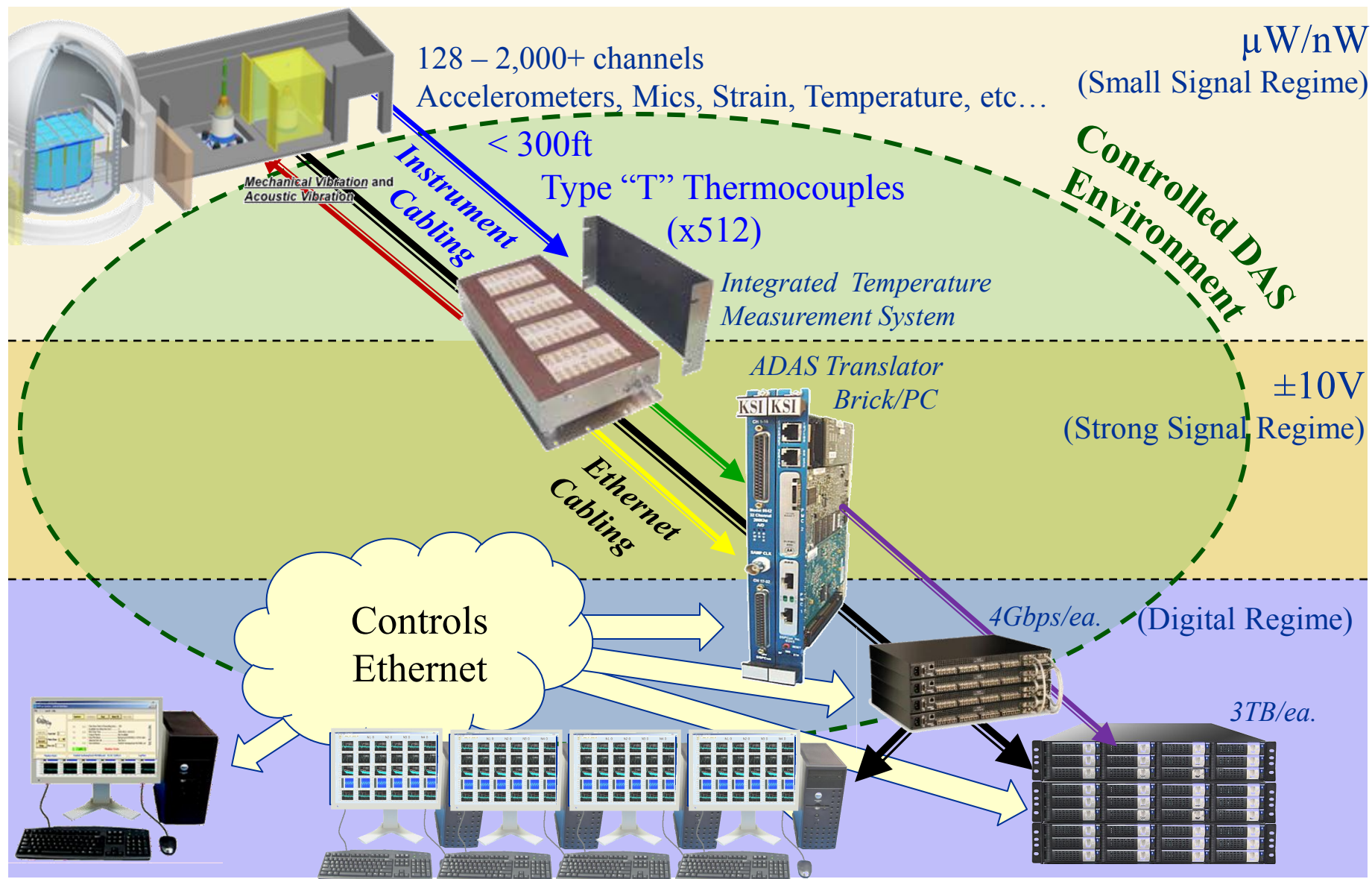
High-Speed and  
Low-Speed ADCs

6 x Low-Speed Bricks  
32 x High-Speed Bricks and  
1 x Discrete Inputs Brick

- Low-Speed Bricks → 96 Channels/Board
- High-Speed Brick (and Discrete) → 32 Channels/Board
- 6 Low-Speed Bricks → 576 channels @ 100 Hz-5kHz SR
- 32 High-Speed Bricks → 1,024 channels @ 5kHz - 256 kHz SR
- 1 Discrete Brick → 32 channels @ 5kHz - 256 kHz SR
- Auxiliary Data Translator for accepting external data sources.
- Simultaneous sampling on all channels
- 16-bit resolution with ~90 dB signal-to-noise
- Integrated linear-phase, anti-alias filters (>100dB Alias rejection)
- Differential inputs (+/- 10V)
- Programmable gains of 1, 10, 100 & 1,000
- On-board DSP and FPGA



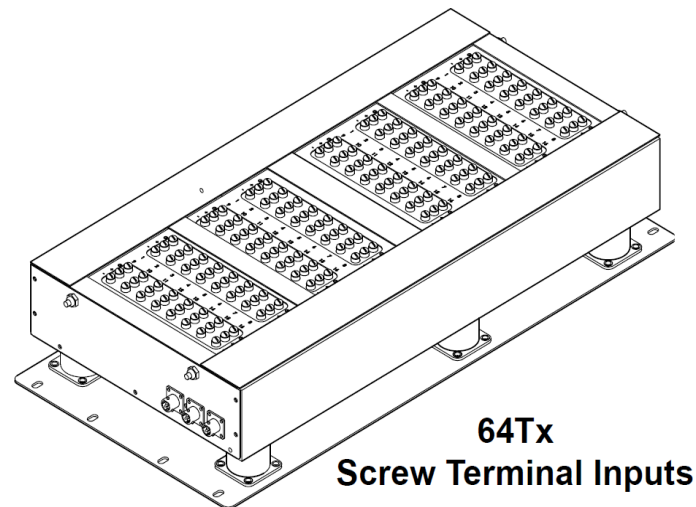
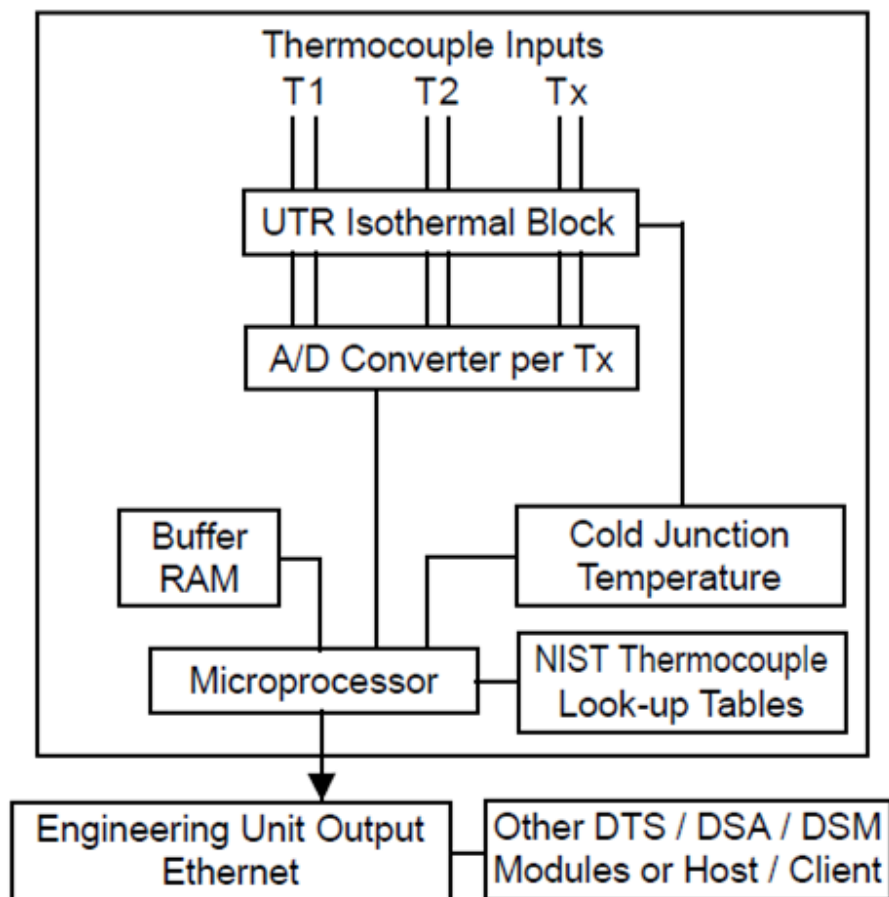
# Modular Distributed Measurement Topology





# SPF Thermal-Vacuum – Temperature Data

## (Low-Speed, 512 Channels)



### Features

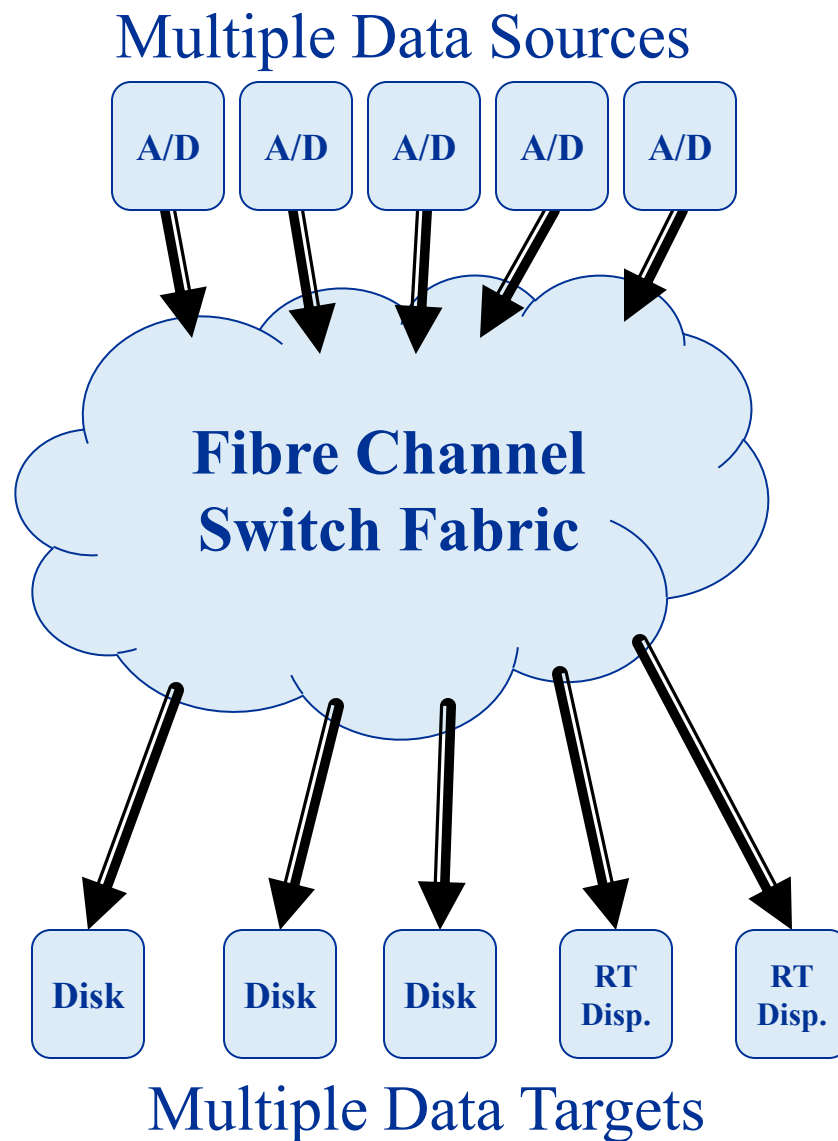
- Accepts type E, J, K, N, R, S, T, and B
- Engineering Unit output, °C, °F, °R, or K
- Ethernet TCP/IP protocol "network ready"
- 10 samples/channel/second
- 50 - 60 Hz noise rejection
- Open thermocouple test
- 1000 Vdc input isolation
- LabView® driver and OPC server
- 16, 32, and 64 channel

# DAS - Data Transport using an FC-Switch Fabric



## Benefits of a Fibre-Channel Switch Fabric

- Performance to over 4 Gbits/second.
- Delivers sustained Transfer Bandwidth of  $\approx 97$  Mbytes/Sec for file transfers.
- Support for long distances up to 10 Km.
- Support for multiple simultaneous protocols.
- Allows for shared storage.
- Provides a scalable network.
- Robust data integrity and reliability
- Fast data access and backup.



# DAS - Data Storage

> 3TB of RAID 1+0 are provided for the Data System to record to

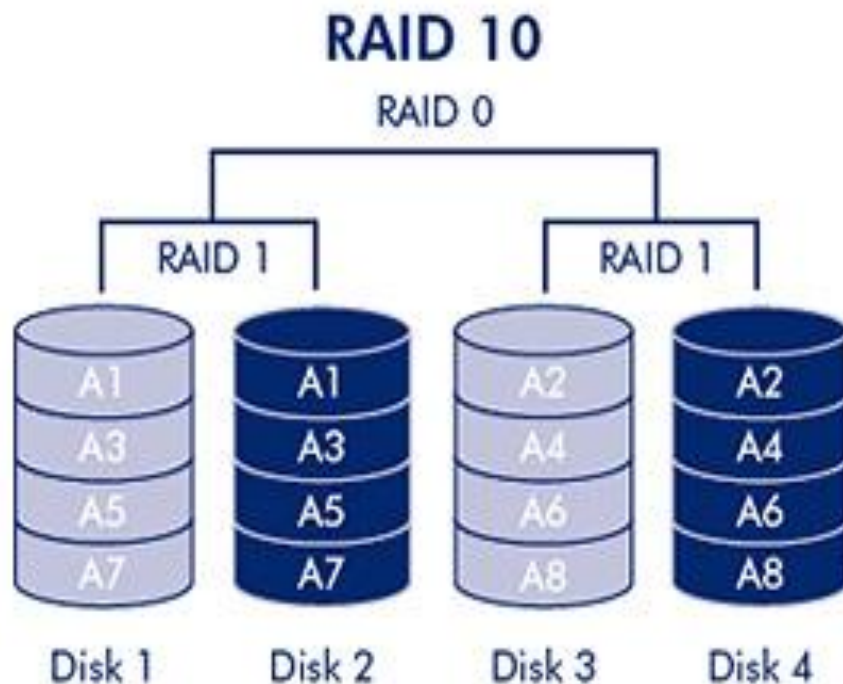
Total Storage Size =

$$\begin{aligned} & \{ \text{Aggregate Data Rate} \} \\ & \times \{ \text{required test duration} \} \end{aligned}$$

> 3 Terabytes  $\approx$

$$\begin{aligned} & \{ 153.6 \text{ Mbytes/sec} \} \\ & \times \{ 8 \text{ hours} \times 3,600 \text{ seconds/hour} \} \end{aligned}$$

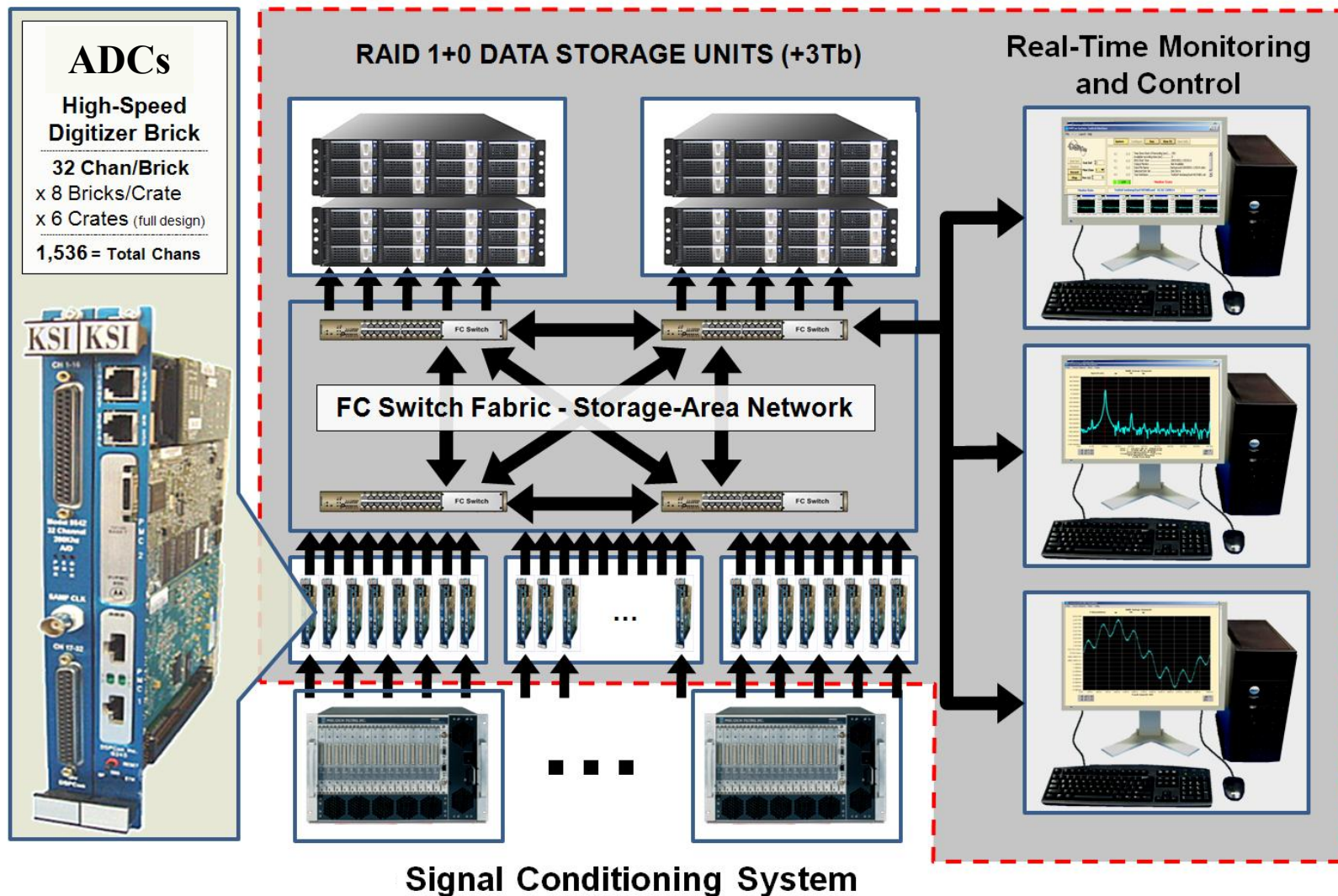
RAID 1+0 provides the best combination of data-recording bandwidth and disk-failure protection.





# Integrated FC-SAN for Distributed Scalability

The completed system forms a Fibre-Channel Storage Area Network





# DAS - Control and Real-Time Display

System Configuration is done using a MS-Excel Spreadsheet

NASA GLENN Example TDF SUBADDRESS 20080401.xls [Compatibility Mode] - Microsoft Excel

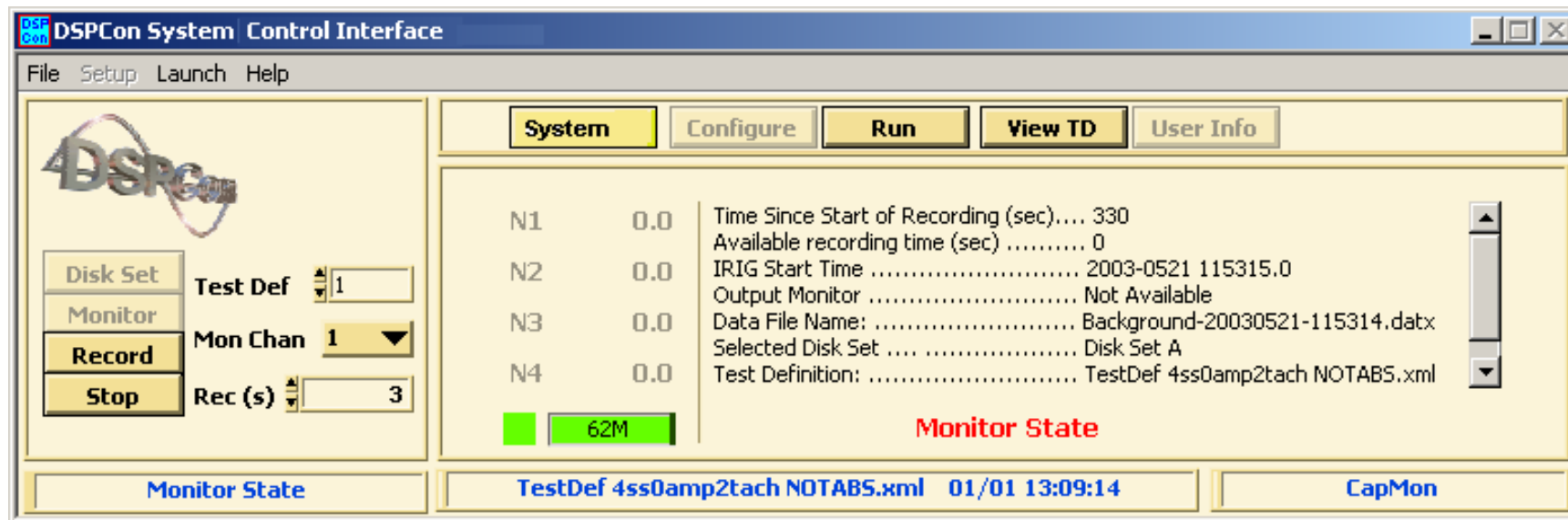
|    | B        | C                | D    | E               | F             | G                     | H             | I                 | J              | K        | L            | M                           |
|----|----------|------------------|------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------------|---------------|-------------------|----------------|----------|--------------|-----------------------------|
|    | Channels |                  |      |                 | Sensor        |                       |               |                   | ADC & Controls |          |              | Channel Type                |
|    | Number   | Channel Enabled? | Name | Display Scaling | Cal Poly      | Sensitivity (volt/EU) | Offset (volt) | Engineering Units | Sample Rate    | ADC Gain | ADC Coupling | CSC Card Type               |
| 3  | 1        | True             | C01  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 4  | 2        | True             | C02  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 5  | 3        | True             | C03  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 6  | 4        | True             | C04  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 7  | 5        | True             | C05  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 8  | 6        | True             | C06  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 9  | 7        | True             | C07  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 10 | 8        | True             | C08  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 11 | 9        | True             | C09  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 12 | 10       | True             | C10  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 13 | 11       | True             | C11  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 14 | 12       | True             | C12  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 15 | 13       | True             | C13  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 16 | 14       | True             | C14  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 17 | 15       | True             | C15  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 18 | 16       | True             | C16  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 19 | 17       | True             | C17  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 20 | 18       | True             | C18  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 21 | 19       | True             | C19  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 22 | 20       | True             | C20  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 23 | 21       | True             | C21  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 24 | 22       | True             | C22  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 25 | 23       | True             | C23  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 26 | 24       | True             | C24  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 27 | 25       | True             | C25  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 28 | 26       | True             | C26  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |
| 29 | 27       | True             | C27  | Peak            | None (linear) | 1.000E+00             | 0.000E+00     | volt              | 4000           | 1        | DC           | None (Direct Voltage Input) |

Channel LowSpeed Channel Dynamic Channel Digital File Header Tachometer Information System Variables Alarm Definition Cal Correction Online Processing DefineChannelMap

Ready Count: 12 131%

# DAS - Control and Real-Time Display

System Operation is accomplished using a simple GUI Interface



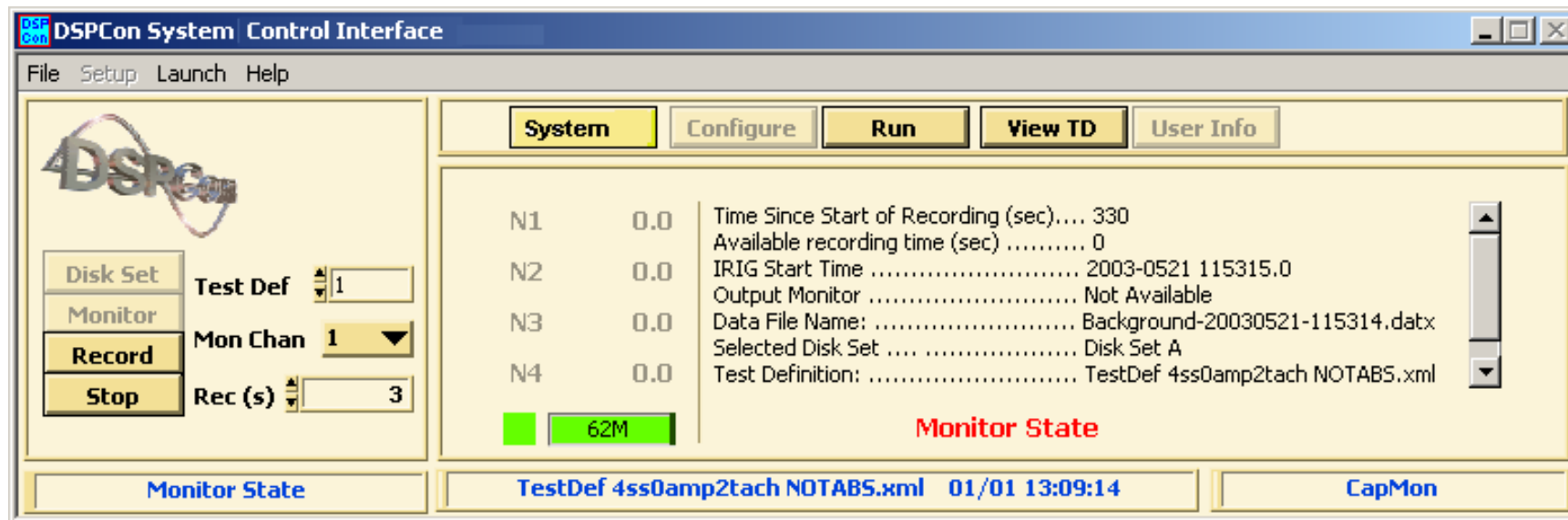
## Other Features:

- ✓ Monitor Disk Usage
- ✓ Monitor System Health (Watchdog)
- ✓ Monitor Mode – Ability to Monitor without Acquiring until triggered (Monitor Mode will capture data prior to the event once triggered)



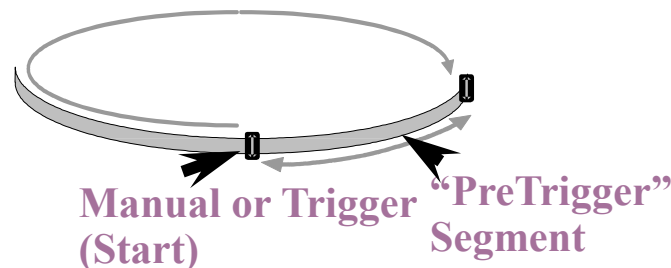
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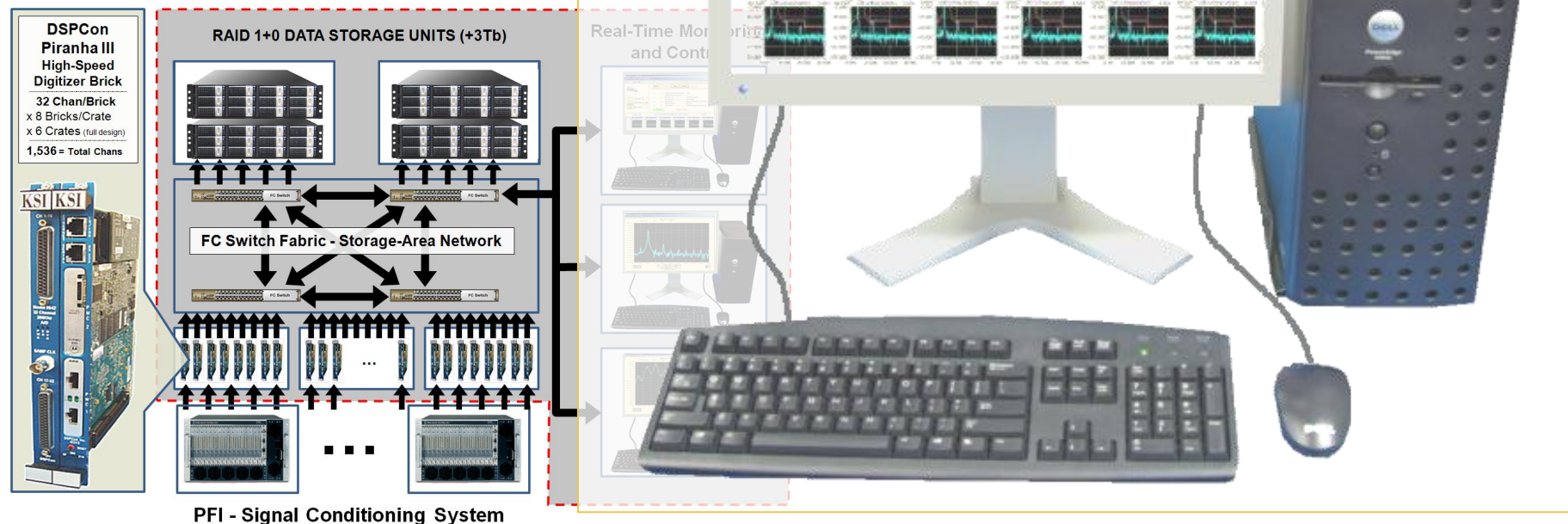
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# DAS - Control and Real-Time Display

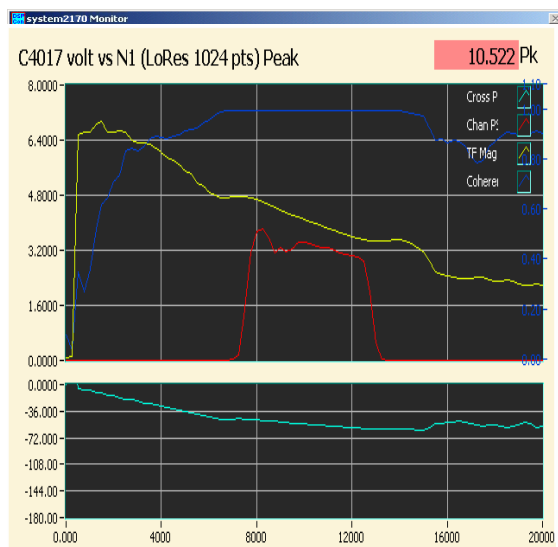
(Pseudo) Real-Time ( $< 1$  sec.) Data Display is provided by the Data System using the fully-integrated software from DSPCon called “Multiscope”



# DAS - Control and Real-Time Display

## Real-Time Display Types

- ✓ Time Plots
- ✓ Frequency (FFT)
- ✓ N<sup>th</sup> Octave Plots
- ✓ Signal Transfer Functions
- ✓ many others...



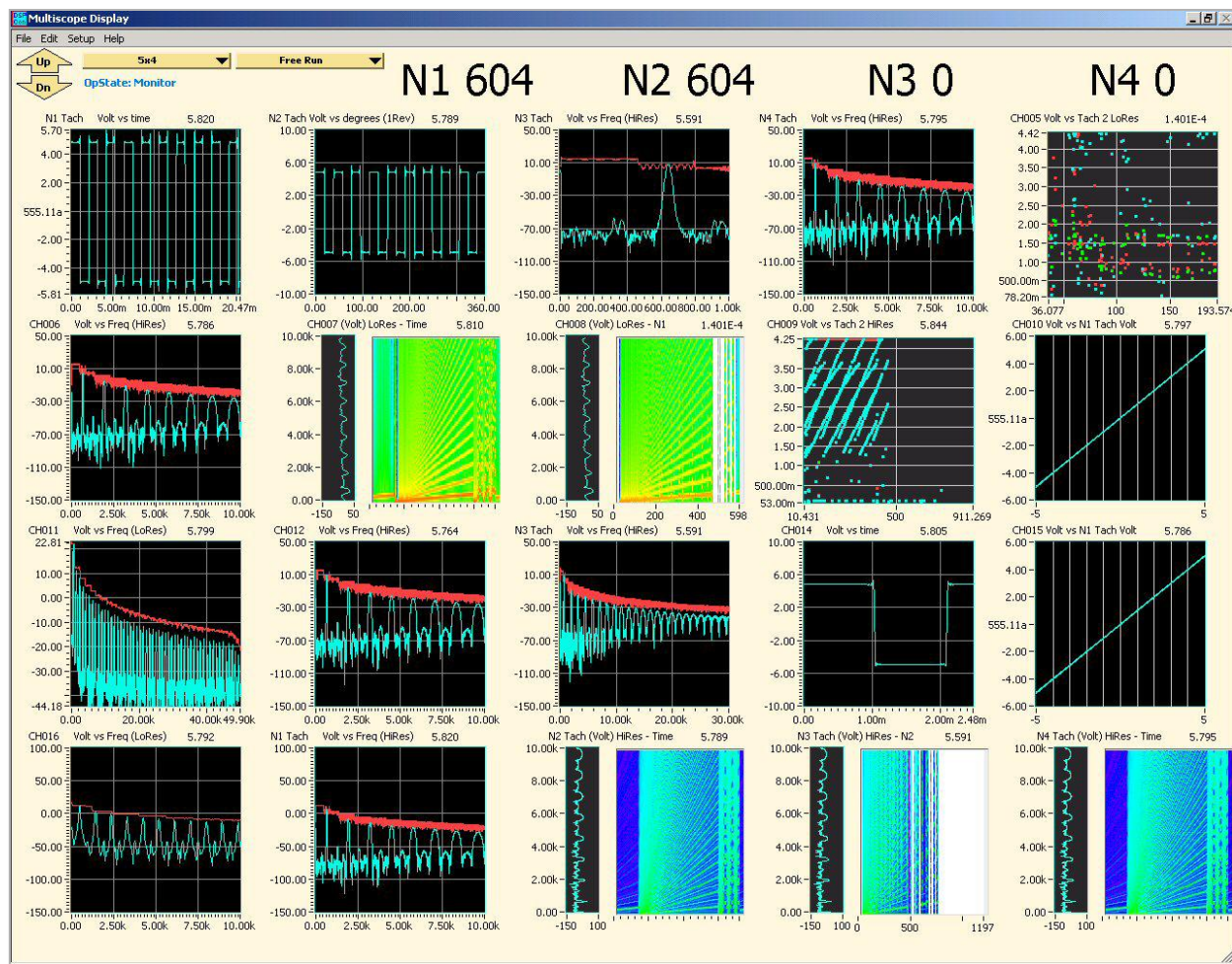
| Plot Types        | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Time Plots        | Amplitude Versus Time                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Spectral Plots    | Amplitude Versus Frequency (Low and High Resolution)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Nth Octave Plots  | Amplitude versus Log Frequency                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Track Order Plots | Track order plots display spectral responses with a fixed or variable bandwidth that are harmonic orders of shaft speed.<br>Display RMS, minimum, or maximum spectral values.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| ZMod Plots        | ZMod plots show the user how spectral values change over time as shaft speed changes.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Lissajous         | Lissajous shows the time domain correlation between two signals. The reference signal values are plotted on the x axis. The second signal is plotted on the y axis.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Bode Plots        | Bode plots show the spectral amplitude and phase response at the shaft speed's fundamental harmonic.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 1 Revolution      | 1 Revolution plots show the time response that spans a single shaft revolution (for rotating machinery applications).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Campbell          | Display types:<br>1. Shaft speed - Campbell Shaft speed shows an icon that is proportional to spectral amplitude centered at the spectral frequency (y axis) and shaft speed (x axis).<br>2. Time - Campbell Time shows an icon that is proportional to spectral amplitude centered at the spectral frequency (y axis) and time (x axis).<br>3. Reference channel - Campbell Reference Channel shows an icon that is proportional to spectral amplitude centered at the spectral frequency (y axis) and rms value of the reference channel. |
| Strip Chart Plots | Strip chart (RMS, Min, Max) show an envelope of the channel response over time; updates are every 2048 samples. Strip Charts can be plotted to show the shaft speed over time; updates are every processed frame.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Waterfall Plots   | Waterfall plots allow users to see how x and y values (representing frequency response) change as a function of time or shaft speed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Transfer Function | This scope renders the transfer function, coherence, and/or cross spectral magnitude and phase response of a channel against a reference channel.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |



# DAS - Control and Real-Time Display

## Real-Time Display Capabilities

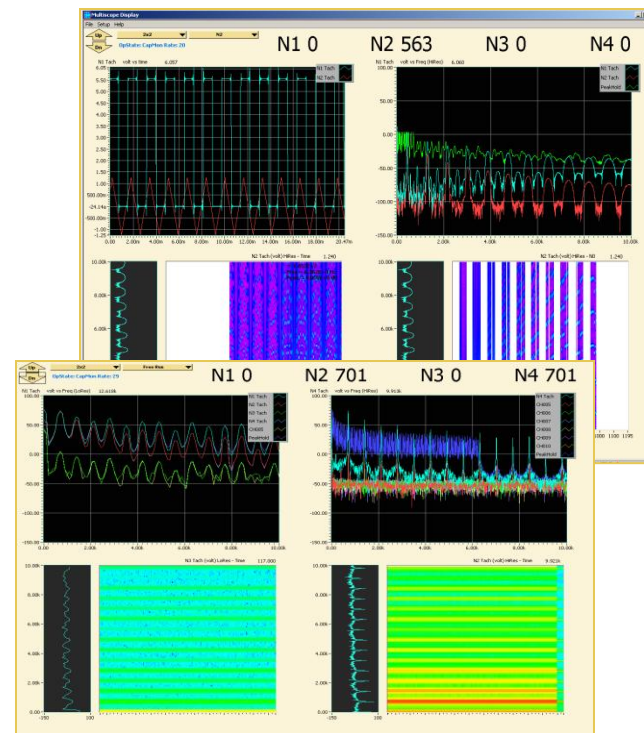
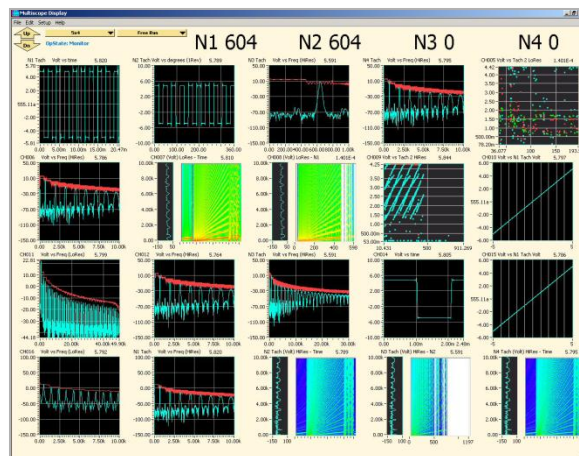
- ✓ Time Plots
- ✓ Frequency (FFT)
- ✓  $N^{\text{th}}$  Octave Plots
- ✓ Signal Transfer Functions
- ✓ many others  
in many different  
combinations and  
arrangements
- ✓ and on multiple  
“Data Monitoring”  
PCs



# DAS - Control and Real-Time Display

## Real-Time Display Capabilities

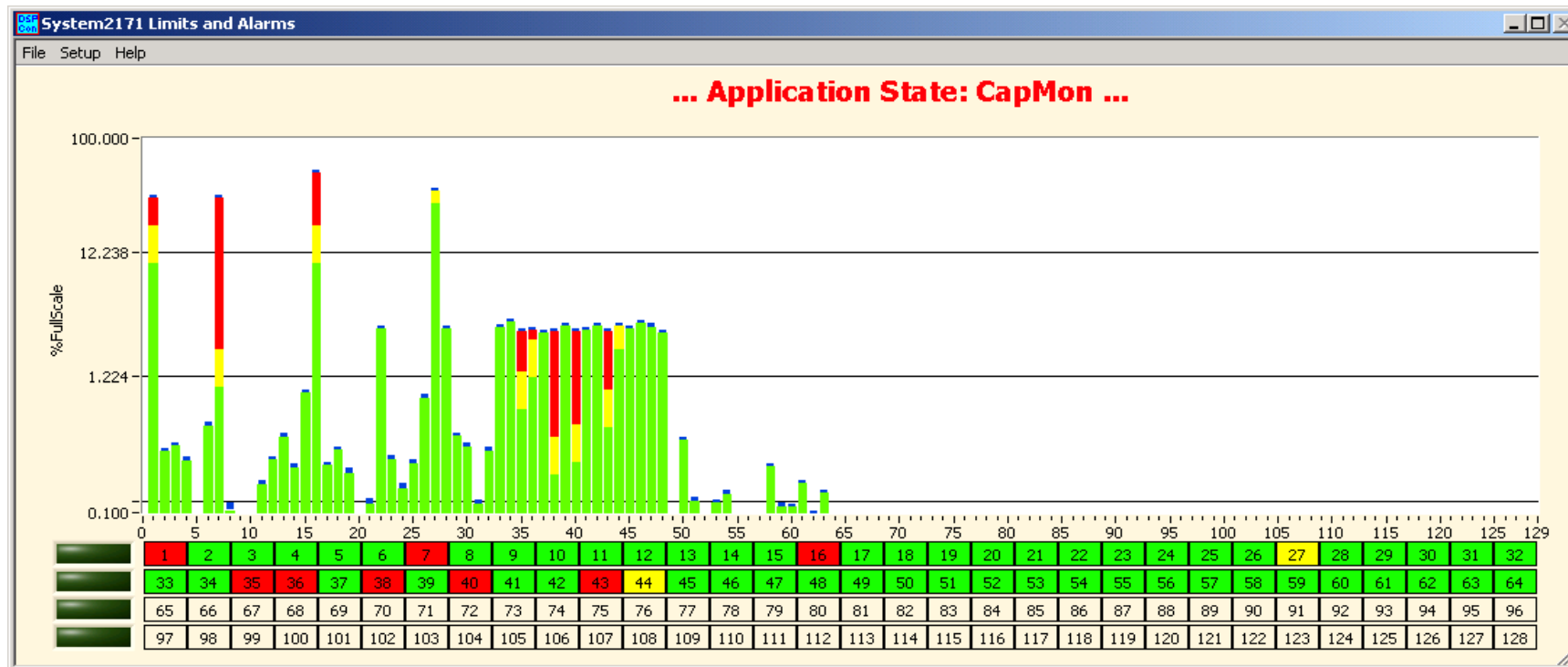
- ✓ Time Plots
  - ✓ Frequency (FFT)
  - ✓ N<sup>th</sup> Octave Plots
  - ✓ Signal Transfer Functions
  - ✓ many others
- in many different combinations and arrangements
- ✓ and on multiple “Data Monitoring” PCs



# DAS - Control and Real-Time Display

## Real-Time Display Types – Limits & Alarms

- ✓ Multiscope also allows for Real-time Monitoring of Alarm & Limits Settings for both Peak Amplitude for each Channel **AND** per Frequency/Per Channel





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